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Iraq reports new target hit in Gulf

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said its warplanes attacked and hit a "large naval target" Tuesday near the main Iranian oil terminal of Kharg Island in the Gulf. A military spokesman said the planes attacked the target at 4.50 p.m. (1350 GMT) and returned safely to base. There was no immediate confirmation of the attack from shipping and salvage sources in the Gulf, who said they had heard no emergency messages Wednesday. The reported attack brings to 12 the number of ships Iraq says it has hit in the Gulf this year. The previous claim, not confirmed independently, was on Jan. 14. Independent shipping sources have confirmed only three strikes this year, the last on Jan. 11 on the 10,267-ton Iranian bulk carrier Iran Emdad. None of the three ships were tankers.

Jordan Times

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U.N. group condemns settlements

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United Nations committee on Palestinian rights expressed concern Wednesday about "constant violations" by Israel, as a result of its policy of establishing Jewish settlements on the occupied West Bank. The committee, through its Chairman Massamba Sarre, reacted to a report that the Israeli government approved on Jan. 10 the sites for six new settlements. In a letter to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Mr. Sarre said that about 100 new settlements had already been established, "notwithstanding the illegality of such action, the censure of international opinion and numerous resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly."

Two Israelis wounded in Sidon

SIDON (Lebanon (R)) — Two Israeli soldiers were injured Wednesday when a bomb went off near their patrol in the centre of this South Lebanese port city, security sources said. Israeli troops sealed off the area and held 20 people briefly for questioning before releasing them.

Hart in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — United States Senator Gary Hart arrived in the Soviet Union Wednesday for talks he said would centre on prospects for forthcoming arms talks between the superpowers. Mr. Hart, who was beaten for the Democratic presidential nomination by Walter Mondale last year, was met at Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport by Georgy Arbatov, head of the Kremlin's Institute for U.S. and Canada studies. Also at the airport to greet Mr. Hart was Curis Kamman, deputy head of the U.S. embassy in Moscow.

Arabs to boycott 'Falasha airline'

BRUSSELS (R) — Arab League states have been recommended by their Brussels ambassadors to boycott a Belgian charter airline which carried out an airlift of Ethiopian Jews to Israel, an Arab League spokesman said Wednesday. Planes belonging to Trans European Airways would no longer be allowed to land in Arab League countries and their governments would have no contacts with the company if the recommendation was accepted, he said.

Knesset rejects law amendment

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli parliament Wednesday rejected an attempt by religious political parties to redefine who is a Jew after Prime Minister Shimon Peres warned the move would have insulated Jews around the world. The parliament voted 62 to 51 against an amendment to the "law of return," which automatically gives citizenship to Jews emigrating to Israel. The bill, tabled by four orthodox religious parties, sought to redefine Jewish identity to exclude gentiles converted to Judaism by non-orthodox rabbis.

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Lebanon prepares for partial Israeli pullout; no firm decision taken

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanese government and army leaders Wednesday reviewed options over a planned three-stage Israeli troop withdrawal from South Lebanon.

The army command briefed cabinet members during a five-hour session, but no immediate decisions were reached on how the army would fill the vacuum, ministerial sources quoted by Reuters said.

Israel has said the first stage of the withdrawal, after 31 months occupation, will be completed within five weeks.

The pro-Syrian Ash Sharq newspaper said efforts were under way to form a new army brigade to take over areas evacuated by Israel, but there was no official confirmation of this.

It was not known whether the government hoped to resume U.N.-hosted troop withdrawal talks with Israel suspended by the Israelis after their 12th session on Jan. 7.

U.N. Under-secretary-General Brian Urquhart, who saw Prime Minister Rashid Karami and President Amin Gemayel Tuesday, flew to Damascus Wednesday where the official press said Syria wanted the talks to resume. But in Tel Aviv, an Israeli military spokesman said they would not resume this week.

It was not clear if the continued suspension meant Israel was unwilling to coordinate its pull-back with Lebanon. Israel has said the first troop withdrawals will be from Sidon area.

Israel's withdrawal from the outskirts of Beirut in September 1983 was not coordinated with the Lebanese government. It triggered a three-week war among rival militias and Lebanese army troops in the mountains above Beirut, with massacres on both sides.

Lebanese army units moved southwards from Beirut towards Israeli lines near Sidon last Saturday to prepare to enter the south when the Israelis leave.

The ministerial sources said the cabinet had set up a multi-party committee to tackle problems facing the army operation.

Political sources said a number of rightist militias had failed to keep an agreement to evacuate the Iklim Al Kharroub region near Israeli lines, despite the withdrawal of their rivals.

The sources said there were still 2,000 mostly Christian rightist fighters in the region, although

those not native to the area should have left under an all-party agreement.

Only 700 soldiers had deployed in the army operation, despite earlier reports that some 1,800 men were involved, the sources added.

According to security sources, Israeli troops and their Lebanese militia allies have set up checkpoints just north of Israeli lines, preventing Lebanese troops from approaching their positions along the Awali River.

In Tel Aviv, an Israeli Foreign Ministry official, who spoke on condition he was not identified, said that Lebanon had requested the postponement of the withdrawal talks and that Israel had agreed.

The Israeli cabinet of Monday approved a plan for a three-stage withdrawal from Lebanon, but another round of negotiations with the Lebanese had been scheduled for Thursday in order to help pave the way for the deployment of other forces in the area to be evacuated by the Israeli occupation army.

The last round of Israeli-Lebanese talks was on Jan. 7 at the headquarters of the United Nations Interim Forces in Lebanon.

(Continued on page 3)

Israeli pullout decision could boost Naqoura talks, U.S. says, page 2

No Mideast settlement without Soviet role, Andreotti tells EC

STRASBOURG, France (R) — Italian Foreign Affairs Minister Giulio Andreotti said Wednesday that the Soviet Union could not be excluded from any future settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Mr. Andreotti referred to the Middle East in a speech to the European Parliament laying down his country's programme for its six-month presidency of the 10-nation European Community.

"We cannot disregard the usefulness of suitable contacts with the Soviet Union which, because of traditional positions and the relationships that have been built up in the Middle East, cannot be excluded from any future overall settlement of the crisis," he said.

Diplomats said Mr. Andreotti's comment about a Soviet role in an eventual settlement would not be welcomed by the United States, which pushed Moscow out of the

Middle East peace process when it negotiated the 1979 Camp David agreement with Egypt and Israel.

Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi and British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe have recently been told by leaders of Egypt and Jordan that Moscow should be brought into the peace process. Syria has always insisted on Soviet involvement.

Mr. Andreotti said pressure must be stepped up to open talks aimed at a negotiated solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict now that Israel's new government was showing what he described as signs of paying more attention to the problem of Palestinians in Israeli-occupied territories.

King Hussein and other Jordanian officials with whom he had spoken in Amman recently expected that Europe would capitalise on any glimmer of hope in

the peace dialogue, he said.

Any action by the community, however, should be linked to that of the United States, whose role was "certainly not exclusive but of prime importance" to a solution.

"The ten need to act with caution but with perseverance by proposing realistic targets which do not situate themselves over-ambitiously beyond the capabilities of the European Community," Mr. Andreotti said.

Community leaders decided at their Dublin summit meeting last month to push forward Middle East peace efforts but opted against playing a direct mediation role in the area.

Mr. Andreotti said the United Nations should be more involved in peacemaking as initiatives under its aegis would be guaranteed to be balanced and should be acceptable all round.

Jury takes partial decision in favour of Sharon in Time libel suit

NEW YORK (Agencies) — A jury Wednesday took the first of three steps necessary to give former Israeli Defence Minister Ariel Sharon victory in a libel suit against Time magazine, then continued deliberating the remaining issues.

Judge Abraham Sofaer announced in federal court in New York that the four-woman, two-man jury reached the initial decision after 17 hours of discussion which began late on Monday afternoon.

The judge said the jurors found that Time's 1983 cover story on the official Israeli inquiry into a massacre at two Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut the previous year defamed Sharon, who has sued the magazine for \$50 million.

The decision was the first of three that the jury must make in order to arrive at a verdict of libel against Time. The jury must continue to deliberate on the issues of falsity and malice.

Sharon left the courtroom after the ruling without making any comment. In a prepared, four-sentence statement issued to reporters, Time said, "This is only the first of the three issues which the jury must decide in this part of the trial, and we remain confident that we will prevail." The statement also said, "Time continues to believe

that the article was substantially true and we could have proven that had we been given adequate access to secret Israeli documents and testimony."

Sharon is suing over a Feb. 21, 1983, Time cover story that said he reportedly "discussed" revenge for the assassination of Lebanon's president-elect, Bashir Gemayel, with Falangists a day before Christian militiamen massacred hundreds of Palestinians in Israeli-occupied West Beirut.

Sharon had denied discussing revenge "with any Lebanese."

The jury decided unanimously, "by a preponderance of the evidence," that the Time article, "read in context," had defamed Sharon. Based on that finding, the jury then decided that a key paragraph of the story meant Sharon "consciously intended" to allow the Falangists to take revenge, including killing non-combatants.

The jury, however, did not rule that the paragraph meant Sharon "actively encouraged" the massacre.

In addition, the jury said the defamatory effect of the paragraph was "aggravated" by Time's statement that details of the alleged revenge discussion were contained in a secret section of an Israeli inquiry commission's report.

The jury was not in the courtroom when the partial verdict was read Wednesday. Judge Sofaer said they had begun deliberating the second stage in reaching a libel verdict under U.S. law — the question of whether the Time story was false.

If they find it was, they will then move to the final test of libel — whether Time published the story knowing that it was false or with reckless disregard for the truth.

Time argued that Sharon, now Israel's minister of industry and commerce, filed the suit to enhance his political stature in Israel and purge the stain left on his reputation by the Israeli inquiry, called the Kahan Commission.

Israel claims Katyusha attack came from Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Israel Radio said Wednesday a Katyusha rocket fell in the Israeli occupied side of the Jordan Valley Tuesday night and claimed it could have been fired from Jordanian territory. The radio said Jordanian troops were seen at daybreak patrolling near the East Bank of the Jordan River and contended that they were searching for those who fired the rocket.



SULTAN BUYS DORCHESTER: The elegant Dorchester Hotel in London (above) has been sold to the Sultan of Brunei, a hotel spokeswoman said Wednesday. The sale price was not disclosed but it was said to be in excess of the £40 million (then \$52 million) paid when the hotel changed hands last July. The sale of the world-famous 285-room hotel overlooking Hyde Park was agreed to Tuesday by the Sultan's representatives and the Hong Kong-based Regent International Hotels Co.

U.S., Soviets may hold Mideast talks including Gulf, Afghanistan

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States and the Soviet Union may hold talks on the Middle East, officials said in Washington, while in Geneva a senior Israeli official said Israel was watching the prospects for such talks and would welcome a "more positive attitude" by Moscow towards the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Reuters quoted unidentified U.S. officials as saying that brief reference to the Middle East was made when U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko met in Geneva last week.

The White House said Monday the subject was not discussed in Geneva but Reuters quoted a State Department official as saying Tuesday that "a passing reference" on the Middle East had been made. He said no decision had been taken about the place, time or level of representation in any future talks.

President Reagan, in a United Nations speech last September, proposed that the two countries

have periodic consultations at "policy level" about regional problems.

Officials said any talks with the Soviet Union on the Middle East would also be expected to cover such issues as the Iran-Iraq war and Afghanistan.

On Monday, responding to a press report, the administration reiterated its opposition to an international conference that would bring the Soviet Union into Middle East diplomacy.

In Geneva, Israeli Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kimche, replying to news conference questions about reported contacts between Moscow and the United States on Middle East issues, said: "There was a decision, we understand, to discuss Middle East affairs between the United States and the Soviet Union. We do not know what that means. We are going to watch it carefully."

If it means that the Soviet Union will become more positive in its approach towards the peace process in the Middle East, and

will give its support, we shall welcome it," he said.

Mr. Kimche said that Moscow could play a more "meaningful role" in the region only after restoring diplomatic relations with Israel, broken off after the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. But he added there was no sign such a move was imminent.

A U.S. State Department spokesman said earlier this week there had been diplomatic contacts with the Soviet Union on possible discussions on the Middle East. But he denied agreement had been reached on holding a meeting of Middle East experts.

On Monday, the New York Times said that the U.S. has informed Egypt and Israel of its decision to initiate a dialogue on the Middle East with the Soviet Union. The report was denied by White House spokesman Larry Speakes who flatly stated that the U.S. had no intention to bring Moscow to play any role in the Middle East.

Sikh high priest shot in Punjab

NEW DELHI (API) — A Sikh high priest was shot and wounded by three motorcycle-riding Sikh militants on Wednesday in India's troubled Punjab state, the United News of India (UNI) reported. The gunman escaped.

Kirpal Singh, one of the five high priests of Sikhism, was reported in stable condition after emergency surgery at the Christian Medical College hospital in Ludhiana City, the news agency said.

Two of the priest's aides also were wounded in the attack, UNI said. The aides also were listed out of danger at the same hospital. No arrests were immediately reported.

Kirpal Singh, the head priest of the Akal Takht, seat of the highest authority in Sikhism, is widely regarded as a hardliner. He bitterly denounced the army storming on the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar, saying India's 13 million Sikhs will never "forget that sacrilege."

The Akal Takht was one of the buildings badly damaged in the storming aimed at rooting out extremists fighting for an independent Sikh nation.

Extremists had reinforced the building and used it as their last line of defence against soldiers in the bitter June 6 battle in which at least 800 people died. Security forces in Punjab were placed on a state-wide alert following the shooting, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said. It also said Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had sent one of his closest aides to Ludhiana.

Maksoud urges two-pronged approach towards U.S. to achieve Mideast peace

BEIRUT (API) — Clovis Maksoud, the Arab League ambassador to the United Nations, said Wednesday the coming year will provide a good but "probably a last chance" to settle the 37-year-old Middle East conflict.

Mr. Maksoud, honoured at a luncheon while on a visit to his native land, also said Arab nations should try to improve ties with the United States but also should be ready to "punish" it if diplomacy fails to alter the American bias towards Israel.

Eased tensions between Washington and Moscow and U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's efforts to convene an international peace conference could "reflect positively" on the volatile Middle East situation, Mr. Maksoud said.

He noted that the United States, along with Israel, has so far opposed the convening any such

U.N. conference, which would be attended by the Soviet Union and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"Israel and the Republic of South Africa, with the regrettable American support, are trying to render U.N. resolutions worthless, while we are trying to preserve the efficiency of the United Nations in resolving world conflicts," he said.

But he added that U.S. opposition to an international peace conference could change if the Arabs could unify to better present their case in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

He said the Arabs should act now, while President Ronald Reagan is most influential after his sweeping election victory, to try to win "U.S. respect, before U.S. support, for our cause."

He explained that the U.S. president could be effective if per-

PLO to discuss Jordanian proposal in 'next few days'

By John Rice
The Associated Press

AMMAN — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee plans to meet within the next few days in Tunis to discuss the proposal by Jordan for a joint peace strategy, committee members said Wednesday.

The meeting in Tunisia "could be by the weekend or the beginning of next week," said Mohammad Milhem, Abdul Rahim Ahmad said he thought it would be Monday.

A panel appointed by the PLO Executive Committee met with top Jordanian officials on Jan. 8 to discuss the proposal King Hussein put forward in a speech to the Palestine National Council (PNC) last November.

King Hussein proposed that Jordan and the PLO forge a common strategy for creation of a Palestinian homeland in return for peace with Israel in exchange for land.

The Executive Committee is to discuss the results of that first meeting, "how far they have gone and how far they can go," Mr. Milhem said.

Mr. Ahmad said a second Jordanian-Palestinian meeting would then be held Jan. 25 in Amman.

Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the Palestinian delegation to the talks, has been quoted in recent articles as saying that in the first meeting, the PLO repeated its opposition to U.N. Security Council Resolution 242.

King Hussein has proposed an international peace conference based on Resolution 242, which calls for Israeli withdrawal from territory it occupied in the 1967 war in return for peace. The PLO objects because the resolution deals with the Palestinian problem as one of refugees and does not deal with the issue of a Palestinian state. But the PLO has endorsed the peace conference idea.

New Caledonia tension hits new heights

NOUMEA (Agencies) — Settlers and black militants traded death threats and insults in New Caledonia in graffiti daubed on walls in Noumea Wednesday as France pondered over what to do next in its troubled Pacific territory.

Owners of hotels, bars and clubs led the protests against an overnight curfew, imposed under a state of emergency, which has left normally lively Noumea like a ghost town at night.

"We will be ruined if the curfew is not lifted," Pierre Lombard, president of the union of restaurants and hotels of Noumea, told reporters.

The aim of the curfew, from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m., is to check the violence sparked by last week's deaths of a white youth and Eloi Machoro, a leader of the Melanesian Kanaks seeking immediate independence for New Caledonia.

The atmosphere in the territory remained tense and graffiti, both for and against independence, appeared on walls.

French special envoy Edgar Pisani, sent here to work out an independence plan, was a leading target for the Kanak Socialist Liberation Front (FLNKS). "Pisani assassin" was a prominent slogan.

The death toll in violence in the territory reached 19 last Saturday when police shot dead black militant Eloi Machoro saying he opened fire on them.

The FLNKS is now getting constant mail and telephone calls from white extremists lauding his killing.

A letter received Tuesday told FLNKS leaders that they would be next on the death list. "Your days are numbered," it said.

The letter bore a skull and crossbones, a drawing of rifle sights and was purportedly signed by the right-wing anti-independence National Front Movement.

Israeli pullout decision could boost talks - U.S.

WASHINGTON (R) — Israel's decision to withdraw its troops from Lebanon could give new impetus to its efforts to work out security arrangements in talks with the Lebanese, the U.S. State Department has said.

The Israeli cabinet voted in favour of plans for a unilateral three-phased withdrawal Monday after failing to reach an agreement with Lebanon in United Nations-sponsored talks in the Lebanese border village of Naqura.

State Department Spokesman Alan Romberg said the United States welcomed the decision, which he said "could provide a new impetus for progress at Naqura for arrangements that would be in the interests of all parties involved."

He said the U.S. continued to support the Naqura talks but

gave no sign that Washington was ready to assume a role as mediator.

The Reagan administration is known to be reluctant to play an active role unless the parties themselves are more willing to compromise.

At a State Department news briefing, Mr. Romberg also said the United States took as a grave and serious threat a statement by the Islamic Jihad group that it would try five kidnapped Americans as spies.

The Americans — a diplomat, a journalist, a university librarian, a

Protestant pastor and a Roman Catholic priest — were seized over the past 10 months in mainly Muslim west Beirut.

Mr. Romberg said he could not confirm that an anonymous caller in Beirut who threatened the trial had any connection with Islamic Jihad.

But he said, "these innocent people have been held captive for extended periods of time, in some cases approaching a year, and allowed no contact with their families."

"Their treatment violates the norms of civilised behaviour and is contrary to the very religious tenets of the caller in Beirut claims to defend."

Mr. Romberg said the caller's charges that the captives used journalism, education and religion as a cover for subversive activities was "patently absurd."



TRAINING COURSE: Minister of Public Works Raif Nijm (centre) Wednesday opens a six-week training course for construction engineers and technicians at the Ministry of Public Works (Petra photo)

Oslo rejects application for PLO office

OSLO (R) — The Norwegian government has rejected an application by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to open an information office in Norway, the Justice Ministry said.

The ministry said in a statement that the security risks of a PLO office in Oslo were too great and could provoke clashes between the organisation's supporters and opponents.

Government sources said rivalry between factions within the PLO has also contributed to the decision.

"The split in the PLO between moderate and fringe elements has provoked violence which Norway does not want to encounter in its own country," they said.

The sources said Norway's Justice Minister, Mona Røkke, would tell parliament that the PLO's representative in Bonn, Abdul Rahman Alaw, would not be allowed residence and work permits for Norway.

Opposition parliamentarians and a pro-Palestinian group in Norway later attacked the government's decision to reject the application.

Luce: U.K. supports Palestinian rights to self-determination

MUSCAT, Oman (Agencies) — British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Richard Luce, concluding a four-day visit to Oman to hold a press conference Wednesday that Britain continued to support the Palestinians' right to self-determination.

He said Britain's policy on the Palestine Liberation Organisation had "not changed," and declared that an early end to the Arab-Israeli conflict was also "in the long-term interest of Israel."

As member of the European Community, Britain is committed to the Venice Declaration which called for the association of the

Mubarak arrives in Greece for talks

ATHENS (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak arrived Wednesday for a two-day official visit which Greek officials said underlined the two countries' success in improving their relations during the past year.

Mr. Mubarak is in Athens at the invitation of President Constantine Karamanlis, a former conservative prime minister. He paved the way for better relations when he visited Cairo last March.

Until then, Greek-Egyptian ties had been overshadowed by the radical stance of Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu on the Middle East and by disputes over Greek property in Egypt and Egyptian property in Greece.

Mr. Papandreu's party, the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK), opposes the U.S.-sponsored Camp David peace process and enjoys good relations with Libya and Syria, but party officials say they want Greece to stay out of inter-Arab disputes.

Greek officials said Mr. Mubarak's talks with Mr. Karamanlis and Mr. Papandreu would focus on the Middle East and Cyprus and on Mediterranean, international and bilateral questions.

An Egyptian Minister of State, Boutros Ghali said in an interview published in Athens Wednesday that Egypt would eventually be accepted back into the Arab fold in spite of its participation in the Camp David process.

"Sooner or later all Arab states will raise their diplomatic representation in Cairo to ambassador level, as Jordan has done.... Arab solidarity will overcome Arab disputes," Dr. Ghali, who is accompanying Mr. Mubarak, told the newspaper Kathimerini.

He said Egypt was grateful for Greece's support for the Palestinian cause and that Greece "could play an important role in the Middle East, unilaterally and through the European Community."

Police laid on a big security operation for the visit and Greek officials declined to give details of Mr. Mubarak's programme until the last moment.

Press reports in several countries have said radical Syrian-backed Palestinian commandos have arrived in Greece recently and Athens has been warned of this. Greek officials have neither confirmed nor denied the reports.

U.S. Navy chief holds talks in Bahrain

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — The U.S. chief of naval operations, Admiral James Watkins, was in the Gulf region this week for what was described as a continuation of high-level military cooperation contacts between the United States and Arab countries threatened by offshoots of the Iran-Iraq war.

Fresh from a visit to Oman where he held talks with Deputy Prime Minister for Security and Defence Affairs Fahd bin Timur, Adm. Watkins met here Wednesday with the ruler of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa.

The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Sheikh Muhammad bin Mubarak and Armed Forces Chief of Staff, Brig. Khalifa bin Ahmad.

Western diplomatic sources said that Adm. Watkins dis-

cussions with Sheikh Isa dealt largely with the situation in the Gulf, scene of a protracted war between Iraq and Iran.

The visit was described as a "routine attempt to keep high-level contacts going" between the U.S. and the Arab countries of the Gulf region.

The Gulf Arab countries have been deeply concerned over the spillovers from the Iran-Iraq war, mainly the so-called "Tanker war" which brought the Gulf conflict closer to the doorsteps of the neutral Arab countries.

Iraq has been raiding commercial vessels in the northern sector of the Gulf, in a declared attempt to undermine Iran's economy by blocking its oil exports. The Iraqis have been retaliating with similar air raids on Arab and

other oil tankers in neutral waters south of the war zone.

Iran has repeatedly threatened to block Gulf oil exports by closing the strategic Strait of Hormuz, the Gulf waterways southern outlet to the Indian Ocean.

Bahrain and other Gulf powers have declared that defence of their own hinterlands was their own responsibility.

No details were immediately available on the visit by Adm. Watkins, who was to spend two days of talks here with Bahraini officials.

The U.S. has committed itself to the defence of the Gulf, if military assistance was required by any of the Arab countries of the region, in the event of an external threat or if the Hormuz was blocked to international shipping.

Algeria wants Polisario at Maghreb summit

PARIS (R) — Algeria's national daily Al Moudjahid said Wednesday a North African summit was difficult to imagine "in the total absence of the Saharan people's legitimate representatives."

In an editorial reported by the Algerian News Agency APS received here, the paper said: "In one way or another the Polisario Front, the only custodian of Saharan aspirations, must have the

chance to inform a North African summit of the will of a people of which it is the vanguard."

Informed sources in Tunis have said Algeria has agreed to a Tunisian proposal for a summit but wants Polisario, which is fighting Morocco for Western Saharan independence, to take part.

Al Moudjahid said: "If the aim is to work towards building up the Maghreb, how could it omit to dis-

cuss what is the main obstacle today...? Obviously, the Western Sahara conflict is the heart of the problem in the Maghreb."

"The obstacles to implementing the Saharan people's self-determination rights and the fratricidal fighting resulting from it are elements of instability and stalemate for the great Maghreb...." the paper said.

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

FILM

* CLIO Awards at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.

PLAY

* A local play (The Choice) at the Royal Cultural Centre 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 661026/7
American Centre Tel. 44371
French Cultural Centre Tel. 41520
British Council Tel. 36147-8
American Cultural Centre Tel. 37009
Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 44203
Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 39777
Haya Arts Centre Tel. 665195
Husseini Youth City Tel. 667181
Y.W.C.A. Tel. 41793
Y.W.M.C.A. Tel. 36111
University of Jordan Library Tel. 443555

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Amman, Tel. 24590
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Lubdub, 374-40
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Hussein, 661757
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 2354
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabbal Amman, 24590
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 771331
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751
Armenian International Church (Interdenominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 616534.

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes from 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 16th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabbal Al Ota (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabbal Lubdub. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

PRAYER TIMES

06:00 Fajr
06:20 Sunrise
12:50 Dhuhr
14:52 Asr
17:15 Maghreb
18:40 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53250, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

08:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
08:15 Bucharest (RO)
09:45 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
09:45 Kuwait (RJ)
09:45 Jeddah (RJ)
09:45 Cairo (RJ)
10:00 Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
11:20 Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
12:00 Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GIF)
12:30 London (BA)
14:30 Tripoli, Larnaca (LN)
14:40 Beirut (RJ)
15:30 Paris, London (RJ)
16:40 Larnaca (RJ)
16:45 Baghdad (IA)
16:45 Cairo, Agaba (RJ)
17:00 Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (LA)
17:25 Athens (RJ)
17:30 New York, Vienna (RJ)
17:40 Belgrade, Istanbul (RJ)
18:15 Amsterdam, Larnaca (KL)
18:15 Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
20:20 Athens (OA)
22:20 Cairo (MS)
00:45 Cairo (RJ)
01:10 Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

05:45 Cairo (RJ)
06:50 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
07:00 Beirut (RJ)
08:00 Damascus, Paris (AF)
08:45 Beirut (MEA)
11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:15 Agaba, Cairo (RJ)
12:30 Athens (RJ)
12:30 Paris, London (RJ)
12:15 Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
12:20 Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
12:30 Ankara, Istanbul (TK)
13:00 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GIF)
15:30 Larnaca, Tripoli (LN)
15:50 Larnaca (CY)
16:40 Kuwait (KU)
17:15 Baghdad (IA)
19:30 Kuwait (RJ)
19:40 Doha, Muscat (RJ)
20:15 Jeddah (RJ)
20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
20:45 Cairo (RJ)
21:00 Abu Dhabi, Singapore (RJ)

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Medium and high clouds will appear with occasional light and moderate winds. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Low/high temperature in deg.C.

Amman 4/14
Agaba 11/22
Deserts 31/5
Jordan Valley 12/22

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 13, Agaba 21. Humidity readings: Amman 55 per cent, Agaba 50 per cent.

AMMAN AIRPORT

ARRIVALS

09:30 Agaba (RJ)
09:30 Cairo (RJ)
09:45 Jeddah (RJ)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 775111
Fire, fire, police 199
Blood bank 775121
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 22090-3
Police rescue 192, 2111, 37777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 56390-1
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Municipal water service 77125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333

HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre 813813-32
Khalid Maternity, Agaba 44281-4
Al-Khalid Maternity, J. Amman 42441
Jabbal Amman Maternity 42362
Shmeisani Hospital 6691-31
University Hospital 845845
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158
Al-Muhsin Hospital 667227-9
The Islamic, Abdali 663292
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 777101-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111
Army, Marjeh 91611

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Adif Dabbas 668384

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jls per kg.

Apple (double red) 250 / 200
Apple (golden) 250 / 200
Apple (green) 250 / 200
Banana 250 / 200
Banana (Mukammal) 240 / 210
Beans 320 / 280
Broad beans 680 / 600
Cabbage 120 / 90
Chestnut 640 / 580
Carrot (yellow) 120 / 90
Carrot (black) 150 / 120
Cauliflower 140 / 100
Cucumber (large) 260 / 220
Cucumber (small) 300 / 250
Eggplant (large) 110 / 80
Eggplant (small) 150 / 120
Garlic 150 / 120
Grapefruit 140 / 100

Lemon 140 / 100
Lettuce (per one) 130 / 100
Mallow 200 / 230
Mushroom 190 / 160
Marrow (large) 170 / 130
Marrow (small) 170 / 130
Onion (dry) 150 / 120
Onion (green) 140 / 120
Oranges (Abu Surra) 270 / 240
Oranges (Shmeisani) 150 / 120
Parsley 80 / 60
Peas (large) 540 / 480
Pepper (sweet) 350 / 300
Pepper (hot green) 320 / 280
Potatoes (local) 240 / 200
Radishes 90 / 60
Spinach 100 / 80
Tomatoes 190 / 100
Turnip 130 / 100

07:15 Agaba (RJ)
11:30 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
12:05 Larnaca, Zurich (SR)
12:15 Istanbul (RJ)
14:30 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
15:30 Cairo (RJ)
15:30 Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
15:30 Beirut (RJ)
16:00 Kuwait (KU)
16:40 Beirut (MEA)
19:15 Riyadh (RJ)
19:30 Damascus, Larnaca (RJ)
19:30 Dhahran (RJ)
20:15 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
20:30 Jeddah (RJ)
20:45 Dubai, Karachi (RJ)
21:00 Cairo (RJ)
21:10 Baghdad (RJ)

FOR FRIDAY

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

18:00 Koran
18:20 Cartoons
18:40 Woody Woodpecker
19:15 Children Programme
19:15 Friday's Prayer
19:15 Documentary
19:15 Soccer
19:15 Knight Rider
19:30 Arabic Programme
19:30 Marcapolo
19:30 News in Arabic
20:00 Local Programme
21:00 Arabic Series

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsweek 06:30 Classical Record Review 06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:09 24 Hours News Summary 07:30 Peetle's News 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsweek 08:30 Nature Notebook 08:40 The Farming World 09:00 World News 09:09 24 Hours News Summary 09:30 Cole Porter And His Music 09:45 Newsweek UK 10:00 World News 10:30 Reflections 10:15 Country Music Spotlight 10:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Monitor 12:00 News Summary: From the Promenade Concerts 12:30 Peter Clayton's Zodiac 13:00 World News 13:09 News about Britain 13:15 New Ideas 13:25 The Week in Wales 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours News Summary 15:30 Network UK 15:45 Sackbuts and Sunolinas 16:00 News Summary: Outlook 16:45 John Peel 17:00 Radio Newsweek 17:15 The Theatre's Yours 17:40 Look Ahead 18:00 Commentary 18:15 Assignment 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:09 Meridian 19:40 The Week in Wales 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsweek 20:30 Discovery 21:00 News Summary: Outlook 21:45 Stock Market Report 21:55 Report on Religion 22:00 World News 22:09 24 Hours News Summary 22:30 Business Matters 23:00 News Summary 23:05 In the Mainstream 23:15 A Jolly Good Show 24:00 World News 00:25 The Week in Wales 00:30 Financial News 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sports Round-up 01:00 World News: Commentary 01:15 Merchant Navy Programme 01:30 Omnibus

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260, SW 7290, 9565, 17740, 11925 & 15210 KHz

06:00 VOA Morning: News, Informal Presentation of Popular Music with Feature Reports, Interviews, Answers to Listeners' Questions, Science Digest, Sports News at 30 minute past the hour, 17:00 News 17:30 Music USA 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Special English News and Features 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Magazine Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Special English and Features 21:00 Newsline America 21:30 Music USA 22:00 News and Editorial 22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00 VOA World Report

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & purely on 9560 KHz, SW

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsweek
08:00 Morning Show

News Summary

10:00 News Summary
10:05 Morning Show
11:00 News Summary
11:05 Listeners' Choice
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Bulletin
14:00 Jordan Weekly
14:30 Music
15:00 News Summary
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Country Music
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
19:00 News Summary
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Science Fiction
20:30 News Summary
21:00 News Summary

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsweek 06:30 Country Music Profile 06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:09 24 Hours News Summary 07:30 Peetle's News 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsweek 08:30 Just A Minute 09:00 World News 09:09 24 Hours News Summary 09:30 Cole Porter And His Music 09:45 Newsweek UK 10:00 World News 10:30 Reflections 10:15 Country Music Spotlight 10:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Monitor 12:00 News Summary: From the Promenade Concerts 12:30 Peter Clayton's Zodiac 13:00 World News 13:09 News about Britain 13:15 New Ideas 13:25 The Week in Wales 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours News Summary 15:30 Network UK 15:45 Sackbuts and Sunolinas 16:00 News Summary: Outlook 16:45 John Peel 17:00 Radio Newsweek 17:15 The Theatre's Yours 17:40 Look Ahead 18:00 Commentary 18:15 Assignment 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:09 Meridian 19:40 The Week in Wales 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsweek 20:30 Discovery 21:00 News Summary: Outlook 21:45 Stock Market Report 21:55 Report on Religion 22:00 World News 22:09 24 Hours News Summary 22:30 Business Matters 23:00 News Summary 23:05 In the Mainstream 23:15 A Jolly Good Show 24:00 World News 00:25 The Week in Wales 00:30 Financial News 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sports Round-up 01:00 World News: Commentary 01:15 Merchant Navy Programme 01:30 Omnibus

OH! Mother!!

21:05 Oh! Mother!!
21:30 Classical Show Case
21:55 News Summary
22:00 Arabian Nights
22:05 Over a Cup of Tea
22:10 News Summary
22:10 Jazz Hour
24:00 News Headlines

News Summary

10:00 News Summary
10:05 Morning Show
11:00 News Summary
11:05 Listeners' Choice
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
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Cabinet, Irbid citizens to discuss services today

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet will hold a meeting in Irbid Thursday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat. They are expected to discuss a number of issues related to citizens' requests and demands for general services including the setting up of a sewerage project, public works and a slaughter house.

A follow-up committee has been established for completing the general sewerage project in the city as soon as possible, to oversee the sports city project and to conduct general maintenance works for the city's streets. Another follow-up team has been appointed to supervise the building of a trading centre: public library and car parks.

The cabinet are also to raise the issue of utilising endowment lands which are located in important sites in the city. Regarding the agriculture situation, there will be a

review of the dissipation of land possession and the possibility for setting up an agricultural company.

Taking part in the session will be a number of Upper and Lower House of Parliament members, administrative governors, department heads, chairman of municipal and village councils, supervisors of clubs, heads of cooperative and charitable societies, representatives of the Jordanian Women's Federation Irbid branch and representatives of all walks of life in Irbid Governorate.

Irbid Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin said that the governorate has drawn up a working paper on the requests and demands of Irbid citizens for general services. The session, Mr. Al Amin added, aims to strengthen relations between the government and the people for building and developing the country.

Agriculture ministry allocates JD 7m to improve production

MADABA (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture has allocated JD 7 million to help farmers improve their production in 1985. Minister of Agriculture Mohammad Al Bashir announced here Wednesday.

The minister was addressing a meeting of farmers and owners of arable lands in Madaba district during talks held at Madaba's chamber of commerce for discussing agricultural patterns that are to be followed in the highland regions.

The Ministry of Agriculture will

soon set up a special committee to organise training courses for farmers to orient them on methods and techniques for improving production, Mr. Bashir said.

Addressing the meeting was Minister of Agriculture Under Secretary Salem Al Lawzi who underlined the importance of the introducing agricultural patterns which aim to diversify agricultural crops in different selected areas of land. Also speaking was Madaba District Governor Abdul Halim Awwad who presented a number of requests about the needs of farmers in Madaba district.



CHARITY CHEQUE: His Highness Prince Ra'ed Ibn Zaid, the president of the Friendship Society for the Blind, Wednesday accepted a cheque for JD 800 on behalf of the society presented by the Amman Players. The local theatrical group raised the funds through performances of a pantomime, 'Jack and the Beanstalk.' Producer and director of the show, Mrs. Pat Pengilly (left), presented the cheque during a ceremony at the Royal Cultural Centre.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Nine die in week's road accidents

AMMAN (Petra) — Nine people were killed and 86 other persons were injured in 139 road accidents that occurred in Jordan in the past week, according to a statistical bulletin issued by the Public Security Department. The bulletin said that 96 accidents, resulting in the injury of 37 people, occurred in the Amman area.

New deputies to be sworn in Saturday

AMMAN (Petra) — The Lower House of Parliament will hold a session on Saturday during which the newly-elected members of the house for the Nablus Constituency Riyad Al Shakaa and Mufid Mubaslat will be sworn in. Among the subjects to be debated at the session is an amendment to the passports law and a proposal for banning licences for the liquor industry in Jordan. Several legal and financial issues will be taken up by the house deputies who will also listen to a report by the house's committee on occupied territories affairs.

Hikmat discusses Omani week

AMMAN (Petra) — An Omani week, to be held here in April, was the subject of discussion between Minister of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities Taher Hikmat and visiting Omani Director of Culture and Arts Department Amir Al Hujiri.

London college uses local author's books

AMMAN (J.T.) — The School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London has adopted books by Jordanian author Dr. Ahmad Owaidi Abbadi to be used by the college's students from Jordan and the rest of the Arab World. A letter, sent to Dr. Abbadi by the university, said that "the books will be used as sources for anthropological, literary and legal studies on Bedouins." Dr. Abbadi had sent four of his books to the university's library for use by the university students.

Lebanon studies options

(Continued from page 1)

(UNIFIL) in the South Lebanon town of Naqoura. Israel boycotted a session scheduled for Jan. 10, claiming the Lebanese were not being responsive.

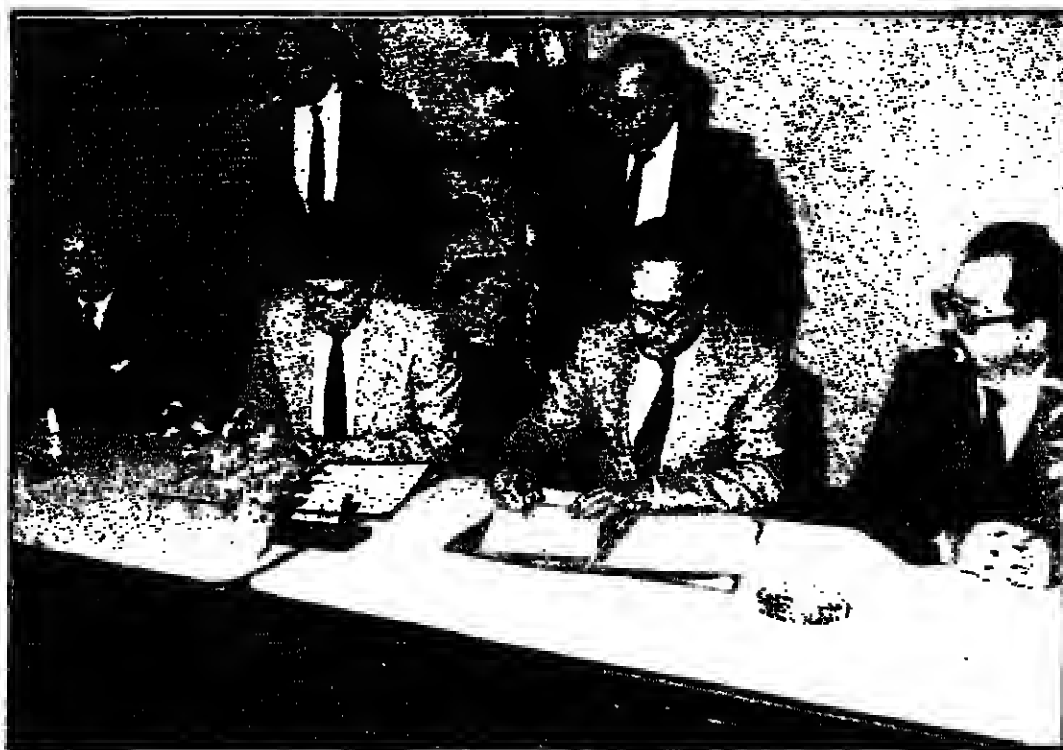
Israeli press reports said Israeli military negotiators would return to Naqoura for at least one more session to present the three-phase withdrawal plan to the Lebanese delegation.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres has said Israel intends to complete the first withdrawal, to a new deployment line in western Lebanon 15 kilometres from the border, within five weeks and complete the withdrawal process by summer.

In Damascus, Syrian Foreign Ministry sources said Mr. Urquhart was to meet Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara'a later Wednesday and Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam Thursday.

He had gone to Beirut from Tel Aviv and had talks with President Amin Gemayel and Prime Minister Karami on the future of South Lebanon before flying to the Syrian capital.

Mr. Urquhart is expected to arrive in Amman Friday. He is expected to hold talks with senior Jordanian officials on the latest developments in the Middle East and U.N. efforts to convene an international conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict.



Minister of Industry and Trade Jawad Al Anani (second right) and Swedish Minister of Foreign Trade Mats Hellstrom (second left) Wednesday sign a trade exchange protocol (Petra photo)

Noor patronises tree planting event to mark Arbor Day for SOS children

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Her Majesty Queen Noor Wednesday patronised an Arbor Day celebration held at the Queen Noor Al Hussein Garden at the site of the SOS Children's Village, now under construction at Tareq. The Queen took part in planting saplings and was joined by the local residents and school children. A total of 1,000 forest trees were planted in the celebration.

Following the tree planting event, Queen Noor toured the buildings, now under construction at the SOS village and inspected the work which she had initiated by laying the corner stone at the site three months ago.

The tree planting ceremony was attended by Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdullah Al Nabulsi, Amman Governor Yahya Al Mosili, the mayor of Tareq and municipal council members.

The SOS Children's Villages present a modern and creative method of caring for deprived children. The purpose of establishing children's villages is to help children who are in need of care through loss of their families. The village offers these children a family

life by grouping them into small family units of six or nine children living in an independent house under the care of trained personnel.

The village, which consists of 10-20 houses, looks after children until they are able to look after themselves. SOS girls remain in the village until they are married, while the young men go to special youth houses where they live while pursuing their education or learning a trade.

On Oct. 14, 1984, Queen Noor laid the corner stone for the children's village which is being built in the town of Tareq just outside Amman. The village consists of 11 family houses as well as a house for the village director, an administration building, a house for assistants and guests, and a kindergarten which can accommodate all the children at preschool level as well as children from outside. The overall area of the village is 33 dunums, which were donated by the Jordanian Armed Forces. Already 12 of the 15 buildings have been roofed and work has started on the internal dividing walls and surface insulation. Work is due to be completed early in 1986. This village is administered and supervised by a voluntary association with Queen

Noor as honorary president.

Abdul Jabbar, students mark Arbor Day

Also Wednesday at the Dead Sea resthouse site in North Shuna a tree planting celebration was held under the patronage of Minister of Labour and Social Development Tayseer Abdul Jabbar.

Dr. Abdul Jabbar also inspected the progress of work at a project for developing the Dead Sea resthouse. Attending the celebration were Minister of Youth Hani Al Khasawneh, Social Security Corporation (SSC) Director General Mahdi Al Farhan, Secretary General of the federation of Jordanian trade unions Samir Qardan and a number of officials.

The University of Jordan Wednesday celebrated Arbor Day and held a celebration in front of the University of Jordan Hospital bridge with the participation of Minister of Public Works Rayef Nijm and the university's president, Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali. Also taking part in the celebration were Ministry of Public Works Under-Secretary Mu'taz Al Belbeisi, the university's vice-presidents, faculty deans and a large number of university students.

West German experts to aid development projects

AMMAN (Petra) — West Germany will provide Jordan with experts to help the Kingdom carry out development projects, according to memoranda signed by the two sides in Amman Wednesday.

The memoranda provide for these experts to work for the Ministries of Agriculture and Planning

and for the Jordan Valley Authority, the Natural Resources Authority, the Jordan Cooperative Organisation, the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University and the Ports Corporation.

The memoranda were signed by Minister of Planning Abdullah Nsour and the West German Charge d'Affaires in Amman.

Jordan wins 1984 award for student exchange

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan has won the 1984 award of the International Association for the Exchange of Students for Teaching Experience (IAESTE) beating 45 other members in the association, according to Dr. Ghasan Halasa, assistant dean of the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Jordan.

Dr. Halasa, who is also the secretary of the national committee of IAESTE, said that this is the second consecutive year that Jordan has won the award in the face of strong competition from Israel.

IAESTE has reported that students sent from the University of Jordan to other countries for training periods proved to be of the highest professional level and this reflects the high engineering standards in Jordan, Dr. Halasa said.

He said that the presence of engineering offices and institutions in Jordan helped to improve Jordan's status abroad despite the fact that the country is passing through difficult economic circumstances.

According to Dr. Halasa, IAESTE bases its decision in the presentation of the award on the number of students sent abroad for training by each member country and in relation to each country's national revenues.

Dr. Halasa said that Jordan last year sent 56 students for training abroad and offered training to 30 foreign students. In 1983, 50 Jordanians were trained abroad while foreigners receiving training here totalled 33.

Foreign students who were offered training in engineering during the past year, he said, came from Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, France, West Germany, Britain, Yugoslavia and Norway.

IAESTE is a non-governmental organisation established in 1948 and Jordan joined its activities in 1978.

the effects of the price-cutting.

Mr. Balqaz also said that the conference discussed the AACO budgets for 1984 and 1985, regulations governing the administrative responsibilities of the organisation's secretary general and the restructuring of its general secretariat.

The conference was attended by representatives of several international and regional air transport organisations and Arab airlines. Mr. Balqaz visited Sana'a on his way home for discussions on bilateral relations between Alia and Yemeni Airlines.

He said the group will study the foreign airlines' fare reductions and seek counter measures to curb

Hellstrom, delegation leave after economic talks

Jordan, Sweden sign trade exchange, credit protocol

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Swedish Foreign Trade Minister Mats Hellstrom left Amman for Cairo Wednesday after signing a trade exchange protocol with Jordan under which Sweden will increase its imports of Jordanian goods and extend credits for development projects in the Kingdom.

During his three days of trade talks with Minister of Industry and Trade Jawad Al Anani, Mr. Hellstrom also discussed the prospects of Swedish imports of Jordanian potash and the possibility of sales of the 35-seat Saab-Fairchild plane to Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airlines, members of his accompanying delegation said.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, the Swedish minister said there was a great potential for cooperation between Sweden and Jordan because of the similarity between the two countries in the sense that both countries are basically poor in resources.

Mr. Hellstrom said Jordan can learn from Sweden in two fields: manpower and infrastructure. He explained that, because of the scarcity of resources in the Kingdom, the government should be concentrating on upgrading the human skills which is exactly what Sweden has successfully achieved.

Services

He said that on the other hand, the Kingdom should work on establishing its infrastructural needs such as developing roads, telecommunications, services and industry. He said that Sweden adopted that policy which was prompted by being a country with vast lands and relatively small population of eight million.

The Swedish minister also said that the scope for cooperation between Sweden and Jordan was large mainly due to the good political relations between the two countries.

He said that there are negotiations underway for the establishment of a Swedish fresh fruit juice factory in the Kingdom and for the possible importation of Jordanian fruits and vegetables. He said the Swedish government will be paying the cost of marketing Jordan as a country with tourist attractions in Sweden.

Mr. Hellstrom, who is heading a 15-member trade delegation consisting of directors and executives of Swedish private firms, has been invited here by Dr. Anani. About 90 per cent of Swedish companies are privately owned.

Energy, electricity

Among the delegation members is the president of Swed Power Company, Mr. Rolf Falkenberg, who said that his firm will be implementing projects in Jordan in cooperation with the Jordan Electricity Authority through the provision of consultancy services within fields of electric power engineering. They will undertake to implement and maintain computer systems and extensive training programmes on the Hussein Thermal Power Station in Zarqa.

Anani reverses decision on insurance company's licence suspension

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Minister of Trade and Industry Jawad Al Anani has issued an order to withdraw a decision by his ministry to suspend the licence of the Petra Insurance Company in accordance with a law issued on Dec. 16 which stipulated that insurance companies should have a deposit of JD 225,000, the Jordan Times has learned.

The company was suspended by the ministry last Thursday for one month for not obtaining the required deposit before the date specified by the ministry. Chairman of the board of directors of the Petra Insurance Company, Mr. Saad Mu'touk said that the Dec. 16 law, issued by the government and endorsed by the Upper and Lower House of Parliament, stipulated that the law was effective 30 days after the publishing of the law in the government's Official Gazette.

However, Dr. Anani took the

premature decision to suspend the company licence last Thursday Jan. 10, six days before the law became effective.

This, Mr. Ma'touk said, has harmed the company's reputation which was just about to recover from a financial setback caused by the company's previous management. Mr. Ma'touk took over as chairman of the board of the company last July.

According to Mr. Ma'touk, the decision by Dr. Anani did not include insurance companies which were merging with other companies. "Since the ministry made exceptions for some companies, why not include my company in this exception, mainly as he understands the company's status," Mr. Ma'touk said.

Apparently, the minister took the decision to suspend the company's licence in accordance with the old provisional insurance law issued in 1965 which was no longer effective since the Dec. 16 law was issued. "He should have at

least given us a few days break to acquire the money needed, which he did," Mr. Ma'touk told the Jordan Times.

He said that Dr. Anani gave companies an eight day grace period on Jan. 1 until Jan. 8, which turned out to be only five days because Jan. 1 was a holiday. Friday was naturally off and the eighth day was the deadline itself during which nothing could be done.

In 1983, the Petra Insurance Company was suffering a loss of JD 174,000 while under the new management, the loss was reduced to JD 2,800 in the 1984 budget.

"We did not ignore the deposit issue, but we hoped that after we explained our position to the minister that he would give us special treatment," Mr. Ma'touk said.

"If the ministry studied the negative effect of its decision on the Kingdom's financial market and the shareholders' confidence, it would not have taken that decision," Mr. Ma'touk said.

Do-it-yourself homes change face of East Wahdat

AMMAN — An impressive success story, which owes as much to the skills and application of local professional planners, architects, engineers and social welfare workers as to those of consultants and contractors, is the Jordan urban development project whose first phase is now receiving finishing touches.

This JD 18 million programme, for which Jordanian consulting engineers Jouzy & Partners and Halcrow Fox Associates of the United Kingdom, were appointed to do a feasibility study in 1979, aimed at providing low-cost homes at three new sites on the outskirts of Amman at El Quesme, Marka and Ruseifeh and at upgrading living conditions in three others: Jofeh, East Wahdat and Wadi Um Er Riman.

Improvements included regularising land tenure, installing services such as water, sewerage and electricity and building roads and footpaths, clinics, schools and community centres.

All the upgrading work is now complete with about 13-15,000 people enjoying the new facilities. In the next 15-18 months, some 15-20,000 people should also have moved into homes at the new sites.

Based on an "extensive social survey" the project has from the start been "reliant on people response," providing a variety of housing options from "site only" to basic two-room units which can be expanded to suit individual taste. Financing advice and technical guidance for such expansion are provided by Amman Urban Development Department (UDD) set up as part of the scheme and largely responsible for

the success of its enactment. With a staff of about 60, led by Dr. Hisham Zagha, the department has won the participation of the people as well as playing a big part in further design work and supervision of construction.

The initial engineering and architectural design work was done following acceptance of a feasibility study by Jordan's National Planning Council and agreement on funding from the government, Jordan's Housing Bank and the World Bank. Work also included providing technical assistance to the UDD to which it seconded several working executives. Construction, meanwhile, was mainly by Jordanian and Chinese contractors.

The response in the upgraded areas where people have now moved in and set about building their own homes with energy and commitment, is to quote one expert, "beyond any planner's wildest dreams." So much so that a second phase of development is now in the making with a feasibility study by the same team targeted for completion by the end of this year.

Spending on this second phase, to be carried out in 1985-88, could total JD 25-40 million and a fourth co-financing partner may join the original three. Like the first phase, the second will include both new sites and upgrading.

Private Jordanian developers may be encouraged to participate and to help, for instance, in providing mortgage finance. A wider range of housing options is also being considered as well as plans for upgrading small housing "pockets" rather than just large areas.



Helping people to help themselves in East Wahdat

Jordan Times

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Dialogue revisited

DESPITE a hastily-assembled denial by the White House the other day, a clearer picture is emerging about the reported U.S.-Soviet agreement to discuss the conflict in the Middle East. Yesterday, the director-general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, David Kimche, disclosed that his government has understood that Washington and Moscow have indeed agreed on a dialogue on the Middle East, and that Israel "did not mind the Soviet Union playing a 'positive' role." The Italian foreign minister, Mr. Giulio Andreotti, addressed the European Parliament, also yesterday, and said that the Soviet Union could not be excluded from any future settlement of the Palestinian problem. "We cannot disregard the usefulness of suitable contacts with the Soviet Union which, because of traditional positions and the relationships that have been built up in the Middle East, cannot be excluded from any future overall settlement of the crisis," Mr. Andreotti told the Strasbourg parliamentarians in a speech laying down his country's programme for its six-month presidency of the European Community. Reuters news agency also quoted officials in Washington as confirming the U.S.-Soviet deal, although the agreement was reached in a way different from that reported initially. And the new State Department spokesman, Bernard Kalb, while reiterating the Reagan administration's view that an international conference to deal with the problems of the Middle East "is not a productive approach to the search for peace," was soft in his denial that the Soviet-American exchange did in fact take place in Geneva. Recalling that President Reagan, in his September 1984 address to the U.N. General Assembly, had noted U.S. interest in "policy level discussions about regional issues (including the Middle East) with the Soviets," Mr. Kalb said that "consideration of possible discussion of the Middle East has been handled through diplomatic channels," with Secretary Shultz only expressing interest in discussing regional issues in Geneva.

It is understandable that the two superpowers might want to keep to themselves, for a while at least, direct and highly discreet exchanges between them, especially when sensitive issues, like the Middle East and Afghanistan, are concerned. But it is also expected of them to assume their respective friends in the area that no solution is really possible without the two superpowers reaching some sort of understanding on the central problem. It is one thing for the U.S. to "reassure" Israel that the planned talks with Moscow on the Middle East are to be nothing more than "an exchange of views," at a low level. It is another — a totally different proposition — for Washington to convince itself and Israel that there is a real need for a serious and productive exchange, and at the highest levels too.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Necessary consultations

KING HUSSEIN returned to Jordan Tuesday at the end of a tour which took him to four Arab Gulf states, where he met with their leaders to discuss Arab affairs. The tour reflected King Hussein's keenness on maintaining consultation and coordination with Arab leaders aimed at finding a common approach to a joint action by Arab states.

During his tour, the King expressed hope that the Arab leaders will reach a formula with which to confront challenges and dangers threatening the Arab Nation. He is seeking solidarity and cooperation among the Arab countries which should forget about their differences and disputes and meet in a summit. Such summit is of paramount importance as our region continues to witness Zionist acts of aggression and the United States moving fast to do everything hostile to the Arabs, exploiting the divisions prevailing in the Arab World and the lack of harmony among their governments.

For their part, the Arabs are still incapable of unifying their ranks and pooling their resources for their common objectives and so it is necessary for their leaders to meet and try to solve their problems in an objective and sincere effort to create a suitable atmosphere for joint action.

Al Dustour: Sensing national needs

KING HUSSEIN's tour of the Arab Gulf states and his talks with their leaders fall within a framework of Jordan's efforts for restoring Arab solidarity and ending Arab divisions. No doubt Jordan's call for holding an Arab summit conference was one of the priorities in the talks because it has become essential for the Arab leaders to meet and plan their future actions together if they want to confront the dangers and evil enemy conspiracies.

The King made the tour to advocate such a summit meeting in view of the present weakness of the Arab Nation and its indifference and apathy with regard to the serious developments in this region. Needless to say, all Arab masses agree that the current pitiable situation is bound to lead to disaster, but surprisingly not enough moves are being made towards averting the looming danger.

It is true that certain Arab regimes opt to maintain the present weak situation for their own selfish purposes as it serves their own objectives. But it is unreasonable to allow this minority to force the majority into accepting the state of weakness and desperation now prevailing in the Arab World.

Jordan has realised before others the dimension and seriousness of the dangers looming in the offing, and this has taken the initiative to rally the Arabs and reestablish solidarity among their countries.

Sawt Al Shaab: Israel should receive united reply

ISRAEL'S DECISION to carry out a partial troop withdrawal from South Lebanon came as a direct consequence of the resistance attacks on the Israeli forces rather than on economic and political reasons. The decision was a result of confrontation with the Lebanese people who are determined to free their country from all signs of occupation and invasion.

Israel had been facing a war of attrition in South Lebanon, losing soldiers and military equipment almost on everyday. This confrontation called for a speedy action to save the Israelis from further losses.

However, Israel has chosen a partial withdrawal because it serves its own interests as the Zionists will never pull out without leaving their agents behind them and creating a suitable atmosphere for the resumption of tactical fighting.

Israel, through inciting one faction against another, is trying to set up cantons or mini-states in the South that are loyal to Israel or at least ready to cooperate with it. With the partial withdrawal, Israel hopes to achieve its objective of dividing Lebanon and keeping the arena open for warring militias to resume their fighting.

It can be said that the Naqoura talks with Lebanon was a smoke-screen for Israel to make its own arrangements in the South. The Lebanese people, hacked by the whole Arab Nation are now called on to unify their ranks and confront Israel's conspiracies and plans.

VIEW FROM AMERICA

Only fortune-tellers can assess 1985

By Franz Schurmann

WHEN 1984 began in the U.S., there was a lot of interest. It was to be an election year. There was the connotation of 1984 from George Orwell's futuristic novel called "1984." There was concern over the poor state of U.S.-Soviet relations.

As 1985 began the mood was quite different in the U.S. There is no optimism. There is no pessimism. There is in a way not even a mood. There is only a curious calm or perhaps an emptiness. It is as if people have lost a capacity to be happy or worried about the future. Life just has to be lived on a day by day basis.

Part of this curious new outlook is reflected in the vagaries of the economy. There is just about nothing predictable about the U.S. economy. Early

in 1984 most economic observers expected the dollar and interest rates to drop. Interest rates went down very slightly, but the dollar went up instead, very far up. Most economists expected a weak recovery. It turned out to be strong. Now the economy is cooling off, but economists are wary of making any predictions. They have discovered through bitter experience that the economy of this country and the world is dark and virtually unknown terrain. Many stockbrokers lost their clients a lot of money when earlier this year they predicted a downturn in the dollar and interest rates.

People have turned inward. Interest in politics is at a low point. There was an outpouring of money for famine relief to Ethiopia. But even that gesture

was to a remote country far away from the middle-class American world.

If the media and the economists are making few, if any, predictions, there are many fortune-tellers who make the most astounding predictions. They don't seem to care whether they turn out correct or not. So to be more in the character of a fortune-teller than a professor, here are a few of my own. Time will tell how I shall score.

On the U.S., I expect a lot of infighting within the Reagan administration during the coming year. Rightwingers are unhappy over the centrist trend Reagan is taking. This will lead to many big political battles in Washington.

I would expect the economy to continue slowing down into

a state of continuing sluggishness. Interest rates and the dollar will go down unless major international crises, especially in the Middle East, make the dollar go up again.

I expect the same kind of political weaknesses in Moscow as in the U.S. Mr. Chernenko does not look well. Mr. Gorbachev seems a likely successor. Soviet economic problems will worsen. But despite this, I think the climate is going to be better for improvement in U.S.-Soviet relations.

I would think that in the Middle East the Iran-Iraq war will continue stalemated or even be formally ended if Khomeini should pass from the scene. I expect the internal situation in Israel to worsen while in the Arab states it should improve. Egypt is going to play

a more forceful role. The outlook in Lebanon is not so bright as it was earlier this year. There is a new strength among the Lebanese Shi'ites that cannot be ignored.

While I think the Middle East will not experience any new convulsions this year, I expect many convulsions in Africa and Latin America. The U.S. is going to face many, many troubles in Central America. Peru could turn into another El Salvador. The internal situation in Brazil is deteriorating.

Islam will be a lot in the news. In the occupied territories of Palestine, there will be Islamic happenings. Islamic forces will become stronger in North Africa. The link between Islamic faith and young

people will become more evident.

In East Asia, I expect China to do particularly well. Chinese economic growth is already quite remarkable. Generally the Pacific region will be the world's most peaceful and economically productive.

All kinds of new discoveries and advances will be made in science. There will be a lot of medical news.

Generally 1985 will not be a bad year. Efforts will be made to cut back on major wars and prevent new ones from erupting. However there probably will be an increase in terrorism from many different political sources.

A year from now we can judge how well these predictions fared.

Gromyko's TV appearance reflects concern over space arms

By Charles Bremner

MOSCOW — A lengthy television appearance by Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko has underlined Soviet concern that any United States insincerity over space weapons could erode last week's Geneva accord on opening new arms talks. Western diplomats said Monday.

Mr. Gromyko, speaking almost non-stop last night for 110 minutes to four Soviet journalists, hammered home the message that, for the Kremlin, the new arms talks would stand or fall on the issue of space weapons.

Diplomats said Mr. Gromyko revealed nothing new, but his tough tone seemed aimed at conveying to U.S. and other Western opinion Soviet impatience over Washington's ambiguity on the issue.

The veteran foreign minister repeatedly underlined Soviet distrust of U.S. intentions, talking of



Veteran Gromyko

American blackmail and calling President Reagan's "Star Wars" research programme for anti-missile defence a devious and per-

fidious stratagem.

Mr. Gromyko said U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz agreed in Geneva last week to open the negotiations aimed at both banning space weapons and curbing long- and medium-range nuclear arms.

U.S. officials have said the research programme is not for negotiations and have suggested accords on curbing nuclear arms might be reached despite disagreement over space systems.

Mr. Gromyko said talks without a serious commitment to prohibiting space weapons would be futile and "frivolous statements" on the issue from Washington were regrettable.

"Gromyko was obviously out to set the record straight and shore up the Soviet position in answer to the gloss people in Washington have been giving," one West European diplomat said.

"He was obviously out to deflect what they see as a U.S. effort

to shift the emphasis of the talks. It was quite a lecture," another said.

Diplomats said the Kremlin would have received little comfort from U.S. reactions to Mr. Gromyko's discourse, reprinted verbatim Monday across two pages of the official daily Pravda.

U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said on American television that he was "ruling out the possibility of giving up a strategic (space) defence, either as the research stage or, if it becomes feasible, in the deployment stage."

Mr. Shultz spoke tentatively of a relationship between space and nuclear arms, saying, "We may seek to link things ourselves. It makes sense to link the things you are talking about."

Some embassy analysts said the Gromyko appearance, the first such off-the-cuff appearance by a top Kremlin official, was an example of a type of public posturing likely to intensify with the run-up

to negotiations later this year.

Much of the 75-year-old minister's speech appeared angled at public and parliamentary opinion in the United States and Western Europe, they said.

A pledge that Moscow would be ready to offer deep cuts in its strategic armoury as a trade-off for a space ban would clearly appeal to U.S. legislators considering funding for expensive new systems such as the MX long-range missile.

Equally, a vaguely worded threat on intermediate range weapons (INF) would strike home amongst Washington's European allies, under pressure from public opinion over the continuing deployment of U.S. cruise and Pershing 2 missiles.

Mr. Gromyko said talks without a serious commitment to prohibiting space weapons would be futile and "frivolous statements" on the issue from Washington were regrettable.

Moscow walked out of earlier INF talks when deployment of

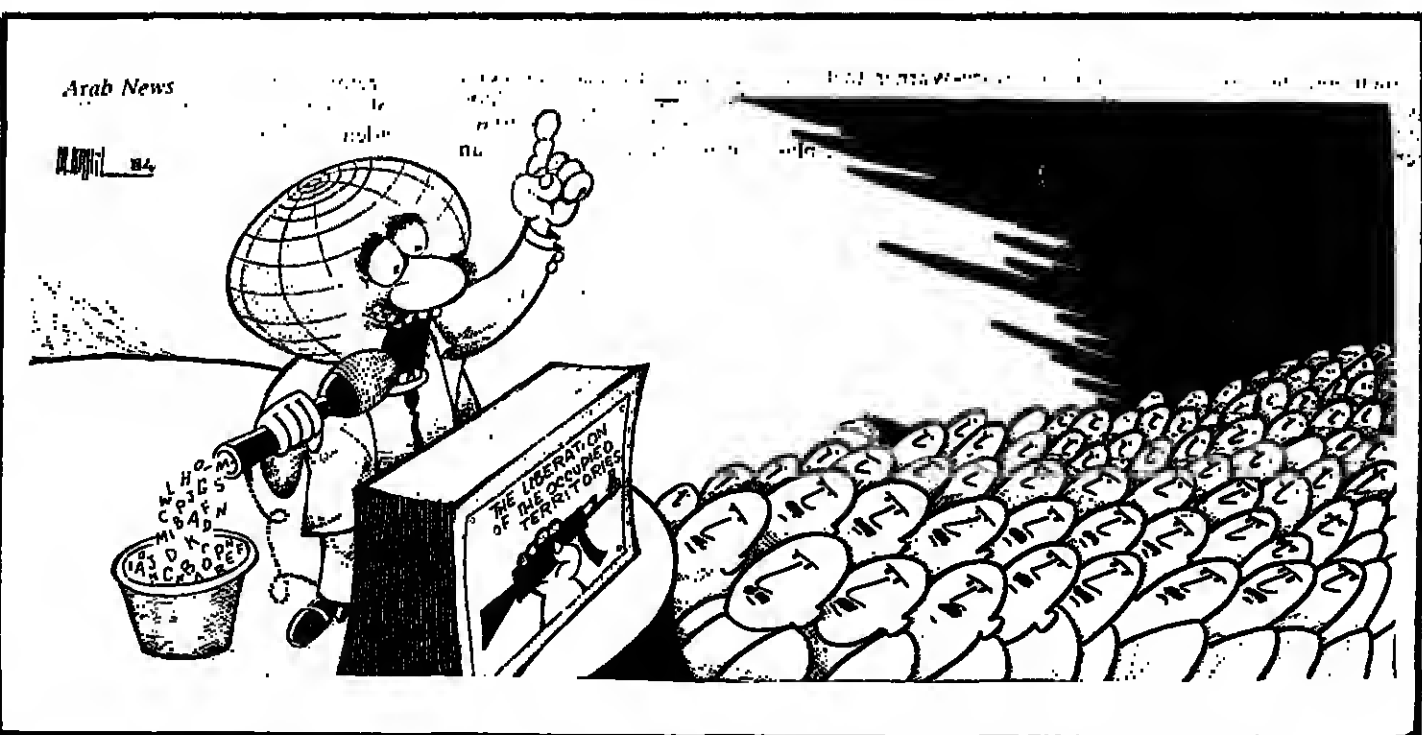
572 missiles started in late 1983. About 100 are now in position in Britain, West Germany and Italy, but political pressure has built up against forthcoming deployment in Belgium and the Netherlands.

Mr. Gromyko said life itself dictated the necessity of combining space negotiations with those on "Euromissiles" and other nuclear weapons.

"After all, it is all the same for people what their death comes from — from a bomb from space or from a warhead launched by a strategic missile or an intermediate-range missile," he said.

Some diplomats said Mr. Gromyko's discourse was also intended to reassure the Soviet public that Moscow had won a substantial commitment from Washington as the price for returning to nuclear arms talks.

Last year Moscow said it would not discuss INF or strategic weapons again until the U.S. missiles were removed from Europe.



S. Lebanon economy ruined by occupation

By John Kohut

SIDON, Lebanon — Two and a half years of Israeli occupation have virtually ruined the economy of South Lebanon and have begun to change its social fabric in ways which could create trouble for both Israel and Lebanon itself.

Residents say the area south of the Awali River has suffered economic catastrophe since Israel invaded in June 1982 allegedly to attack Palestinian guerrillas. The prospect of social upheaval has grown as lack of government authority has left people to fend for themselves.

"This was a feudal society where peasants would go to the landlord because he could deliver the government to them," a Western diplomat told Reuters.

"The Palestinians virtually controlled the South before the invasion. Now there is a leadership vacuum and people are suffering with no one to turn to," he said. "Beirut may find a very different South when the Israelis leave."

Mohammad Zaatari, head of Sidon's Chamber of Commerce, told Reuters that with unemployment estimated at over 40 per cent, "we have a foundation for extremism of the left and the right."

Banners of the Shi'ite Muslim fundamentalist "Hizbollah" (party of God), until now mainly active in West Beirut, have recently started to multiply in the South, where about 80 per cent of people are Shi'ite.

Local people say the government in Beirut neglected the South even before civil war broke out 10 years ago, pumping most of

its money into the area around the capital.

Now resentment is increasing. A woman shopkeeper in a mountain village near Tyre said: "We receive ministers from foreign countries, but we never see any important Lebanese leader coming here to ask 'How are you, what do you need?'"

A sense of isolation has grown since Israeli troops, who continued their invasion right into Beirut, pulled back to the Awali River in 1983, cutting all overland routes to the South except one through the mountain village of Baator.

Travel to Sidon, only 40 kilometres south of Beirut, has become a humiliating and expensive journey of at least five hours. Travellers must have a pass from the Israelis.

Trucks exporting fruit and vegetables, on which the South depends for about 60 per cent of its income, can be held up for two weeks at Baator so goods often rot before they can reach market. Transport costs are 10 times what they were in 1983, residents say.

The closing off of roads and an Israeli attack on 50,000 Muslims celebrating the Shi'ite feast of Ashura in the town of Nabatiyeh in October 1983 are seen as turning points.

Since the attack on worshippers celebrating the holiest feast in the Shi'ite calendar, anti-Israeli activity has grown. "The clergymen answer to different groups and cannot work together because of the Israeli presence, but the frustration of isolation is pushing youngsters towards more action-oriented groups," one diplomat said.

Israel invaded with the declared aim of ejecting Palestinian guerrillas, but the biggest threat it now faces in South Lebanon is from Shi'ite Lebanese fighters, residents say.

At stalled Lebanese-Israeli negotiations on an Israeli troop withdrawal, Israel has demanded guarantees that Palestinian commandos will not be allowed back into the South.

Shi'ites say any Palestinian commando infiltration would meet popular resistance because of the trouble their presence caused local Lebanese before the 1982 invasion.

"If the situation doesn't change soon, Israel could find itself with an organised Shi'ite threat, and the Shi'ites are not easy targets like the Palestinians were," a diplomat said.

Residents say as long as the South is occupied, economic recession, frustration and tension will grow.

The mayor of Sidon, Ahmad Kelash, told Reuters that industry in the port city of 120,000 people was operating at 30 per cent of capacity, shops had closed and the municipality was employing its staff half time to create more jobs.

"The municipality depends on building taxes for 60 per cent of its income, but not a single new building has gone up since 1982," he said. "Our revenues are falling, our responsibilities are growing, and crime is increasing."

Souhail Naassab, who has a spare parts shop in "industrial city" on the outskirts of Sidon, says most of the several hundred similar shops there close by noon for lack of business. He has taken

in no new stock since 1982.

Anne Nixon, an American agriculturalist working in the South for three years, said: "People can't plan because of the uncertainty. They never faced such hardship, morale is low, few bother to make repairs on their farms any more."

"The economic problem is serious because if people don't find jobs, they'll become Israeli collaborators or thieves. They have no alternatives," said one native of Sidon.

Farmers and businessmen say they are using up their savings and cannot keep their heads above water much longer.

But in some parts, buildings are still going up, even if their owners, many of whom have returned to their villages from abroad with their earnings, stop half-way.

Zain Basmah, who returned 10 years ago after 27 years in Sierre Leone, is putting the final touches to a grandiose house near Tyre started before the invasion. "The biggest import through the port of Tyre is cement. That means we're staying," he said.

One Tyre businessman, who said he had enough savings to start up a \$100,000 biscuit factory once the Israelis left, declared he would not take his money abroad.

"Of course I am staying because things will get better... the Israelis are going to get fed up and leave," he said.

Naassab was less optimistic. "The Israelis stayed in the Sinai (which they took from Egypt in the 1967 war) for 10 years, and the Sinai is only a desert," he stated.

Brazil's new president promises justice, democratic reform

By Allan Reditt

BRASILIA — Tancredio Neves, chosen Tuesday as Brazil's new civilian president, is pledged to change his country into a just and democratic society after 21 years of military rule.

He has gained a large majority in the 686-member Electoral College enshrined in the constitution by the architects of the 1964 military coup. But Mr. Neves has called this an undemocratic institution and his first task will be to ensure his successor is elected by direct popular vote.

He takes over from General Joao Figueiredo, Brazil's fifth military president, for a six-year term from March 15. But he has promised to amend the constitution of South America's largest nation to allow direct presidential elections within four years.

"Essentially my four years as Brazil's president will be dedicated to the peaceful transition — socially, politically and economically — to a free, responsible and just society," he has said.

Mr. Neves wants to strengthen and restore faith in Brazil's democratic institutions, alleviate the social burden of its near 100-million-dollar debt and reduce "the scandalous gap dividing a small, wealthy minority from an abjectly poor majority."

He plans to convene a constituent assembly to erase by 1986 the main undemocratic provisions from the present constitution, particularly the current presidential election system.

On the debt, he is under pressure from the left wing of his Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB) to declare a moratorium if he fails to reduce interest payments to a maximum of six per cent and extend repayment terms.

"The Brazilian government has responsibilities to the Brazilian people, and only after that should it consider its promises to its creditors," he says.

Mr. Neves, a former banker, is not one for radical solutions. He says he will not break off relations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and sees the wild fluctuation of world interest rates rather than the debt itself as the main problem.

"We cannot accept the monetarist, inhuman and unjust economic process now in force," he says. "Brazil will honour its commitments but it will seek easier terms, both with regard to interest rates and the time frame."

He admits over two decades of military rule have not been entirely negative economically, sin-

gling out the modernisation of roads and communications as positive achievements.

But he says there will be no Pharaonic projects such as the costly hydroelectric schemes and underground rail systems favoured by his military predecessors. Mr. Neves says these were largely responsible for the debt.

He wants to slash inflation from more than 200 per cent, encourage economic growth and reduce unemployment by opening up the domestic market through incentives to small and medium-sized enterprises.

He aims to improve the purchasing power of the ordinary worker, whose minimum wage is \$50 a month, stimulating consumption and sales.

Mr. Neves will come to power with broad support from labour and he should be able to introduce a social pact between workers and employers to ensure industrial peace. But a wage and price freeze to curb inflation may be too radical for either side.

Politically he would like to provide an environment in which genuine political parties may emerge. The present parties are products of military constraints.

His own PMDB veers from the centrist majority to an extreme left wing which includes Communists banned by the military from having their own parties.

"I favour the legalisation of all parties, as long as the constitution is reformed, but this is not a presidential problem but a parliamentary one," he says.

He calls himself "an old, unrepentant liberal."

Domestic issues will dominate his government, he says, with foreign affairs confined mainly to economic problems, getting better terms of trade and attacking protectionism. But his left wing may demand he restore relations with Cuba, broken at the time of the coup on pretext that Havana was exporting terrorism.

If elected, Mr. Neves will be 75 when he takes office, and the oldest man to succeed to the Brazilian presidency. But he showed no signs of flagging on the campaign trail.

"Remember I'm not as old as (Italian President) Sandro Pertini or (Chinese leader) Deng Xiaoping," he joked.

Never touched by scandal, Mr. Neves has been a finance and a justice minister. He was Brazil's first prime minister during the parliamentary experiment of the late President Joao Goulart.

Born in mineral-rich Minas Gerais state, Mr. Neves has been married for 40 years and has three children.

سورة الفاتحة

Dawning of the day of the robot

The end of 1984 marked an anniversary for the attempt to create a practical application for science-fiction ideas, with the creation of an industry in robots. Peter Marsh looks at the origins of the robot industry and how far it still has to go.

LONDON—Thirty years ago last month the worlds of science fiction and production engineering collided. The result was an industry in robots, a fledgling business that in the coming decade could profoundly affect the way people live and work.

The event was the filing in the U.S. of a patent in "programmed article transfer". Its progenitor was Mr. George Devol, a prolific inventor who had developed audio hardware for the first talking movies and radars used in the D-Day landings.

The sale of industrial robots, defined in technical parlance as computer-controlled arms for factory jobs, evolved from this patent. Today 500 companies sell the machines, generating a world turnover of about \$2 billion.

Yet the day of the robot as the true engineering device—as opposed to something dreamed up by science-fiction writers—may still be in the future. The devices are increasingly becoming part of automated systems in factories that link a variety of production tasks such as machining, assembly and inspection.

These networks of hardware promise to change the way workshops operate, by making goods more efficiently and with quicker turn-rounds.

In a development whose consequences could be still more far-reaching, a small cadre of engineers around the world is working on "intelligent" robots with rudimentary reasoning power and senses such as vision. Such hardware would work in people's homes and in service industries such as food preparation, security work and cleaning.

In the forefront of these moves is Mr. Joe Engelberger, a charismatic U.S. engineer who teamed up with Mr. Devol in 1960 to form Unimation, the first company to sell industrial robots. Mr. Engelberger, who sold Unimation to Westinghouse two years ago for \$107 million, has set his sights on raising \$25 million to produce a robot for petrol stations.

The machine would take the place of a station attendant (or, at self-service garages, the driver) in pumping fuel into cars and lorries. Unlike the so-called "first generation" robots that populate factories, the hardware would be on tracks or wheels and have sensors such as TV cameras to provide information, for instance the type of vehicle and the location of the filling cap.

The devices could be controlled by advanced computers, of the sort that electronics researchers are struggling to build, that would make elementary decisions.

"I was there at the beginning and I feel it's my destiny to take a lead in the production of service robots," says Mr. Engelberger.

"The technology today is so hard and deep that I feel it's easier to make an advanced robot for service industries than it was to set up Unimation in the 1960s."

In Mr. Engelberger's assessment, a fully-fledged household robot—"an honest-to-God robot, not a toy"—could be on sale in six years for jobs such as window cleaning, while the filling-attender device could appear in two years.

A machine to perform more simple tasks, to give patients their meals in hospitals for instance, could be developed within 18 months, says Mr. Engelberger.

Interest in such hardware is not confined to the U.S., where several small concerns such as RB Robot and Androbot have sold for several years (and with varying degrees of success) small robots for hobbyists that cost several thousand dollars. The machines are dismissed as playthings by veteran robot-makers such as Mr. Engelberger.

In Sweden, researchers at Electrolux are examining ideas for home robots that would vacuum the floor. In Japan, engineers started a \$75 million project in 1983 backed by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry to develop by 1991 intelligent robots to work in hazardous environments, such as under the sea, in nuclear power stations or in rescue work after earthquakes.

Reekie Research, a tiny company in Richmond, west London, plans to produce in February a small, mobile machine that will initially be sold to schools. The device, which Mr. John Reekie, the managing director, hopes to sell for about £700 (\$840), could later be developed into a domestic model that could perform tasks such as looking after old people living alone.

In Mr. Reekie's view, small enterprises will pioneer the work in home robots—just as they did in home computers. "The big companies have the resources but do not have the imagination."

Not everyone agrees with this optimistic stance on intelligent robots—Mr. Devol is one of them. He says of household robots: "Maybe they'll come, maybe they won't. The price will have to be low and they will need more sophisticated computers than we have at present."

Development of more advanced machines would greatly expand the available market for robots. The current generation of robots, of which some 50,000 have been installed, are almost exclusively confined to manufacturing industry.

These machines perform tasks such as welding car bodies, painting washing machines and lifting objects off conveyor belts. They have no sensory ability, so their routine can be changed only by altering the programmes in their computers.

It is an ironic thought, that if engineers succeed in making the more advanced kind of devices with "sense" which begin to emulate people, they will by a circular route have returned to the original principles of robot-building.

Prior to the Engelberger-Devol partnership in the 1950s, people had thought of robots as mawkish characters in science-fiction stories whose essential feature was their likeness to people. The pair's achievement was to abandon the quest to build such machines, which with the technology of the time would have been too difficult, and concentrate on something more practical.

Both men admit that they chose for their creations the word "robot" simply to attract publicity. Mr. Devol says the word caught the attention of executives.

Mr. Devol's patent was aimed at automating handling operations of which every factory contains a huge variety.

He realised that only when the operation was part of a high-volume manufacturing activity (in which perhaps tens of thousands of items are made in very long batches) could a production engineer justify the costs of installing specialised handling equipment based on mechanical devices such as stops and cams.

Most factories, however, made things in small batches in which the size and shape of components change from day to day, or even hour to hour—this fact is as true today as it was in the 1950s.

As a result, most handling jobs had to be left to people, a state of affairs that Mr. Devol characterised in his patent as "exceedingly wasteful of precious manpower."

The solution, said the inventor, was to link to mechanical arms magnetic memories of the kind that were appearing in the early computers. Mr. Devol had gained experience of such devices through working for Remington Rand, one of the first computer manufacturers.

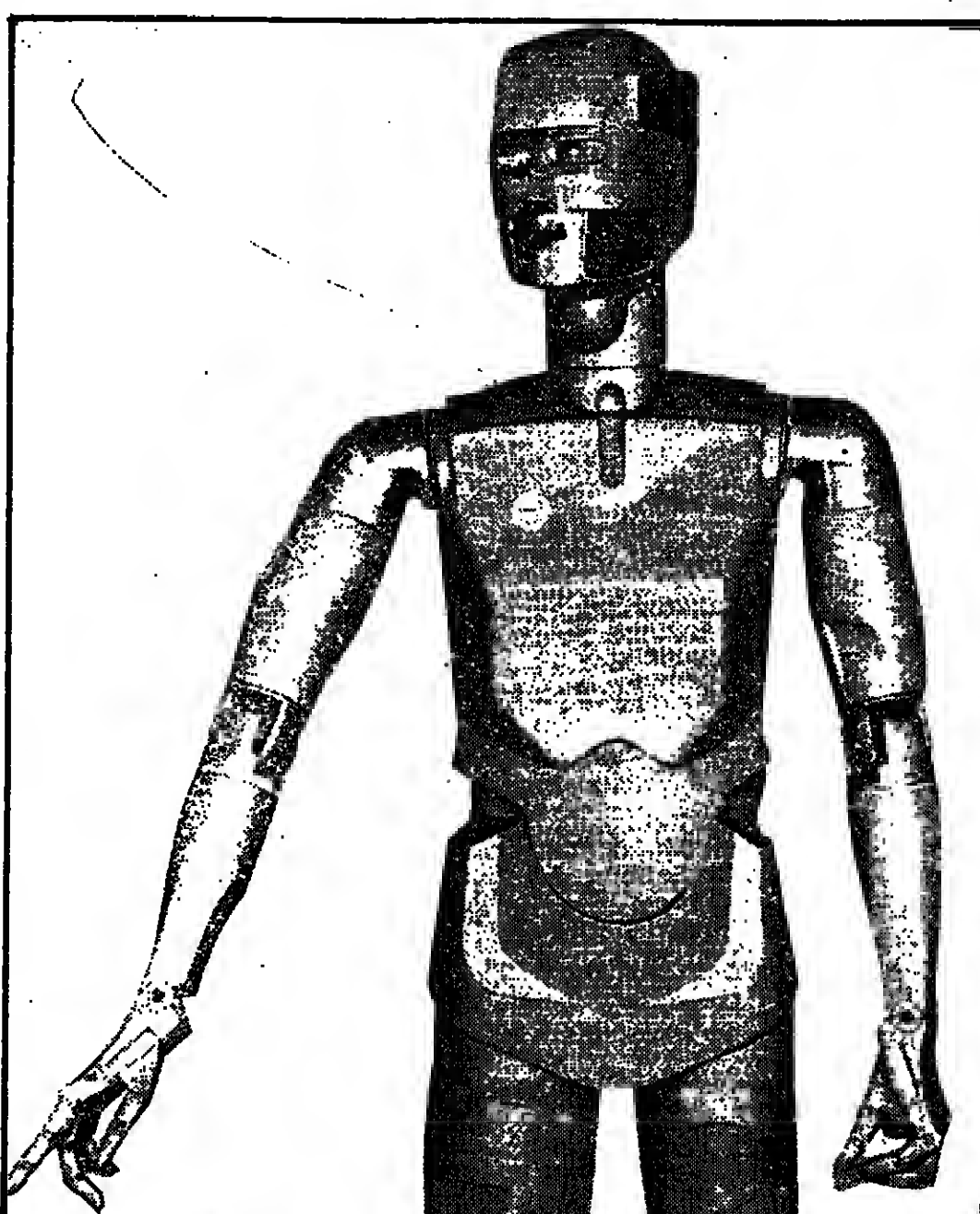
To change the operation of the arm, an engineer would simply alter the software (in the early days, this was a set of punched cards) that feeds information to the memory.

"The present invention makes available for the first time," said Mr. Devol in his patent, "a more or less general purpose machine that has universal application to a vast diversity of applications where cyclic control is to be desired."

At a cocktail party in 1956, Mr. Devol, then 44, met Mr. Engelberger, who was 13 years his junior, and a disillusioned engineer in the aircraft industry. The two became friends. Mr. Engelberger already had a keen interest in robots as a result of reading the science-fiction stories of Mr. Isaac Asimov.

Mr. Engelberger eventually set up Unimation with financial help from Pullman, an enterprise best known for its railway carriages. Unimation bought the patent know-how from Mr. Devol.

But the use of applying the word "robot" to a piece of factory equipment backfired. With robots having entered the popular culture as nasty, threatening creatures, factory managers (to say nothing of their workforces) disliked the unpleasant connotations of the term.



Much closer to a human morphology

Ford, for instance, insisted on calling the machines "universal transfer devices" for some years after Unimation started selling them.

Unimation installed the world's first industrial robot in 1961, at a General Motors factory in New Jersey. But Unimation made slow progress and failed to make a profit until 1975. Other American enterprises such as AMF, Hughes Tool and Borg-Warner that started making robots in the 1960s, also failed.

The robot industry left the plateau stage in the mid-1970s when manufacturers showed more interest. In 1982, the recession in the world engineering industry began to bite and sales levelled off again, though they may once more be starting to climb.

According to many analysts, the robot market is suffering from an over-abundance of suppliers which has left customers confused. Anxious not to be left out of what appears to be a glamorous technology, major U.S. companies such as General Electric, IBM, General Motors and Westinghouse (as well as several big Japanese concerns) have joined the robot business over the past few years.

"The big companies jumped into an industry that wasn't ready for it," says Mr. Engelberger. "They are losing millions of dollars trying to carve out a share. Before the business is really settled, we will see a shake-out."

About 40,000 industrial robots, worth roughly \$2.4 billion, should be sold around the world this year, according to one forecast from IBM. Some observers see sales growing at roughly 30 per cent a year, producing a \$9 billion business by 1990. About 40 per cent of all robots are sold in Japan, with Europe and the U.S. accounting for roughly equal shares of the rest.

Customers increasingly require robots to be part of complex networks of automated hardware that turn out goods in a flexible fashion so that the type of product can be altered between batches. The individual machines are linked by data highways in much the same way as offices are connected by the ordinary telephone system.

As a result of this development, robot suppliers are forced to become not just purveyors of mechanical hardware but skilled in software and the art of integrating segments of manufacturing apparatus under computer control.

"A customer won't go out and just buy a robot," says Ms. Laura Conigliaro, an analyst with Prudential Bache Securities of New York, who studies technical trends in manufacturing. "He is looking for a complete solution to a production problem."

According to some experts, new technologies in sensors and computers, many of which are under development in academic laboratories, may strengthen the role of robots in factories by broadening their capabilities.

The links between the robots of science fiction and those of the real world were neatly summed up by Mr. Asimov in a foreword to an engineering manual on industrial robots that Mr. Engelberger produced three years ago.

Alluding to his famous collection of short stories on robots published in the 1940s, he wrote: "I did not at that time seriously believe that I would live to see robots in action and robotics becoming a booming industry."

"Of course, the robots that now exist...are not yet as complex, versatile and intelligent as the imaginary robots of I, Robot—but give the engineers time!"—Financial Times news feature.

Randa Habib's Corner

Take law into your hands

IF YOU happen to have a financial problem with an associate; if you are in conflict with your landlord; if you feel your rights are ignored by certain clients, not paying their dues, then sit calmly in an armchair, stretch your legs, take a deep breath and think.

Some time back, not too long ago, you would have immediately called your lawyer to present your case to him and things would have developed to the point of going to court to claim your rights.

The problem here is that this alternative is out of question. With the rate court fees have reached today, you would have nothing to gain, almost nothing, from filing a case.

You recover your pride, your moral satisfaction, yes; but no financial gains, for the fees you would pay to the court added to the fees of your lawyer would leave you with little money in your pocket.

So, what is left for you to do? Perhaps, to recoup your rights by your own means. Here you have many options either you appeal to the common sense and reason with the person in conflict with you and rectify peacefully the problem, or you ask a third person to intervene and play the judge like Solomon the King, or perhaps resort to the tougher solution.

Here also you have many alternatives. You can threaten your opponent to burn him alive in a little fire, to impale him the Ottoman way, to whip him or to pluck out his eyes. The literature of detective stories is full of examples from where you can learn.

At the same time, you can keep in mind that whatever you do to your opponent, he will think twice before filing a suit against you.

This is the situation that we are bound to reach since the government decided to raise court fees by 1,000 per cent. So the last word, ladies and gentlemen, should be: Start your karate lessons.

When Armeli scores, Jews forget he is an Arab

From Alan Elsner

SHFARAM, Israel—Every weekend carloads of Jewish families arrive in this picturesque, Arab Galilee town to shake the hand and request the autograph of an Arab star—Zayel Armeli, the most explosive talent in Israeli soccer today.

"People turn up all the time. I get fan letters from Jewish schoolchildren all over the country. When I recently went five games without a goal, I had hundreds of telephone calls from fans, some Arabs but mostly Jews," he said.

His rise to fame as Israel's top striker and one of its chief hopes for a place in the World Cup finals in Mexico in 1986, has been sudden.

At the start of last season, he was struggling with the local team in the depths of the third division. Then, he was transferred to first division Maccabi Haifa.

"They were in eighth place, 13 points behind the leaders when I joined," Armeli, aged 26, said. He scored 13 vital goals in the remaining 20 matches and Haifa won the league title for the first time in its history.

"It meant a lot to me as an Arab to be hoisted on fans' shoulders and hear the supporters chanting my name," he said.

But Armeli also has to suffer racial hostility.

"At away games, fans try to taunt me with shouts of 'dirty Arab or PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation) filth.' I try to ignore it, let it go in one ear and out the other. The best reply is to score a goal or two. That usually shuts them up."

He began playing football as a child in the dusty, narrow alleys of Shfaram, a mixed Muslim-Christian town of 40,000 perched on a hilltop.

"We had no pitches, no boots, no equipment of any kind," he recalled. "Even today, sports facilities in (Israeli) Arab towns and villages are way behind what the Jews have."

At 16, Armeli joined the Shfaram club and stayed with them until last year.

"They wouldn't let me go, even though top clubs were after me for years. People said the future of the village depended on me leading the team to the first division. But it was an impossible dream," he said.

A bustling centre forward, Armeli has a surprising turn of speed for a big man and is very strong on the ball. He likes to run straight at defences and is good in the air.

His success, and that of Rifat Turk, an Arab from Jaffa who has been a regular member of the national squad for the past five years, has inspired a new generation of Arab footballers to try to make their way in Israeli soccer.

These new young players are gaining increasing success in first division clubs, though none yet looks likely to break into the international level, at which Armeli and Turk are among the very few Israeli Arabs to achieve sporting prominence.

While all Israeli sports suffer from lack of funds, the situation is worse in Arab villages, where most schools are without proper facilities. Most Arab towns and villages have bumpy pitches and lack changing rooms and spectator amenities.

Armeli himself was first picked for the national team in 1982 and has scored 12 goals in 12 appearances.

"I am aware that as an Arab, I am under constant scrutiny and my behaviour must be perhaps on a higher level than that of Jewish players."

In the World Cup qualifying competition, Israel is in a group with Australia, New Zealand, Taiwan and Hong Kong. The matches begin next October. — Reuters.

Do computers have the right to launch a nuclear war?

By Jonathan Sharp

Reuters

SAN FRANCISCO—A British scientist is taking the Pentagon to court because he fears computers could launch a nuclear holocaust by accident.

Clifford Johnson, a 35-year-old Oxford Ph.D. now working on computers at Stanford University, is suing Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, accusing him of violating the American constitution by delegating too much power to machines.

Dr. Johnson is no ordinary anti-nuclear crusader. He stresses that he is not questioning nuclear weaponry in itself, but how it is controlled.

He says the power to press the nuclear button should remain firmly in the hands of the U.S. president, and not be surrendered to error-prone computers.

He believes presidential authority has been eroded by technological advances which mean that, in certain cases, computers have effective control over human destiny.

And the trouble with machines, Johnson argues, is that even the most sophisticated ones can go frantically wrong.

"What people don't realise is that computers make errors all the time," he told Reuters. "There is no such thing as an infallible computer chip."

Dr. Johnson's lawsuit was dismissed by a San Francisco court last July, but the judge encouraged him to take the case to a higher court which might have "greater wisdom". He is now preparing for a hearing expected in the next three months.

Johnson's campaign takes aim at a system called, in the jargon of the nuclear age, "launch-on-warning-capability" (LOWC). This means that nuclear weapons are launched by a government when its computers say an enemy attack is under way.

The U.S. government denies it would rely exclusively on computers in order to unleash its nuclear arsenal.

But Dr. Johnson argues that the time taken by the warheads of a Soviet SS20 missile to reach Western Europe, for example, is so short that dependence on quick-acting computers to launch a retaliatory attack is inevitable.

The use of LOWC will be even more important if the United States builds its so-called "Star Wars" system in which enemy missiles would be destroyed while still in space.

In order to be effective, such a system would have to be activated within seconds of enemy missiles being launched.

The temptation to put "Star Wars" under the full control of an automated system would be irresistible, Dr. Johnson says.

"Even if the president is involved, it is really him that is going to be deciding? The way that information gets to him is from people looking at computer screens," he said. "And if you do computerise, you could have an accidental launch."

To illustrate the dangers of relying on computers, Dr. Johnson cited incidents in 1980 when computer errors caused U.S. Armed Forces to go on alert.

"There was a whole slew of panic situations that nearly got out of control," he said. "On one occasion a 46-cent computer chip went wrong—just one chip—and 100 nuclear bombers were taxiing down runways and missiles were readied."

But if humans cannot make decisions fast enough about a possible nuclear catastrophe and if computers are unreliable, what should be done to guard against world war III?

Get rid of static, land-based weapons that are an obvious target for snap attacks in favour of mobile systems like bombers which can be called back before it is too late, Dr. Johnson says.

After all, if land-based missiles were removed and mankind were still determined to destroy itself, "there are still enough weapons around to smash every nation on earth."

But at least it would be man that made the decision, not a computer.

public.

Alexander Jentzsch, head of the Health Ministry's drug monitoring department, says Austria will probably follow suit by mid-1985 after studying the West German experience.

"We don't want to run the risk of being accused of tolerating this here," Mr. Jentzsch told Reuters.

"Poppy heads for hobbyists" reads a shop sign in Vienna's colourful fruit and vegetable market near the State Opera. The heads cost from six to 16 schillings (27 to 72 cents) each.

Austria imported some 14 tonnes of poppies from Morocco and other southern countries in 1983, official figures show.

Most opium tea-drinkers are already opium or heroin addicts who use the tea only if they cannot afford a shot of the hard stuff. For some it is the first drug they use and become addicted to, however.

Consumers, usually aged between 17 and 20, try it because it is cheap and fashionable.

The poppy trip is followed by sickness and diarrhoea as the beverage damages the drinker's stomach and intestines.

"I think it is very dangerous," says Ms. Jawad.

West Germany introduced legislation in September under which imported poppy heads must be chemically cleared of active ingredients before they are sold to the public.

Some 3,000 Austrians—from a population of just 7.5 million—are officially registered as drug addicts. But Ms. Jawad, a social worker at the Central Drug Guidance Centre, believes the number of poppy tea consumers is higher.

Poppy heads may be bought legally in Austrian flower or hobby shops, ostensibly for use in flower-arranging.

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West Germany introduced

USTA issues strict rules for Davis Cup players

NEW YORK (R) — Arthur Ashe stays on as U.S. Davis Cup captain and players will have to follow strict new guidelines regarding their behaviour and commitment to the team, the president of the U.S. Tennis Association (USTA) said Tuesday.

John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors have been formally criticised for their bad behaviour during last month's upset victory by Sweden in the Davis Cup final in Gothenburg, and the new guidelines are a direct result of the way they acted.

USTA President Hunter DeLoach said: "The team will be selected on the basis of ability, availability and willingness to represent the United States in a manner which will bring credit to the individual, the team and our country."

DeLoach, who made no direct reference to McEnroe or Connors, added: "Competitive intensity is a quality which is enhanced by self-discipline and self-respect."

Connors was fined \$2,000 for three incidents in Gothenburg, and McEnroe was openly critical of the court condition and the timing of the event, held just before Christmas.

Ashe, who has received a lot of mail complaining about the players' behaviour, said: "The United States Tennis Association has now made it clear that it wants a better-behaved team."

The players will have to sign a document agreeing to the new guidelines before a new U.S. team is chosen. The letter, copies of which were made public Tuesday by the USTA, includes the following statements:

Toleman looks for tyres

LONDON (R) — Toleman, who gave Derek Warwick and Ayrton Senna their first chance in Formula One motor racing, are ready to launch Sweden's Stefan Johansson on his first full Grand Prix season — provided they can find some tyres.

Team director Alex Hawkridge unveiled their 1985 car and said

Toleman would be in Brazil for the opening race of the season in April with or without the means to go round the track.

"I hope common sense will prevail and someone will supply us with tyres but as of this moment I am not so sure," he said.

Toleman's problem arose when their French suppliers withdrew from the sport. Another big manufacturer seems fully committed to rival teams, while Hawkridge considers it "very undesirable" to return to Pirelli, the company which shod their cars when they started racing.

Around 300 sets of four tyres are required for a two-car team per season. Weather permitting, Johansson will drive the new TG185 for the first time at Silverstone later this week. A few sets of last year's compounds have been found for the shakedown session.

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Big names to miss first World Indoor Athletics

PARIS (R) — The first World Indoor Athletics Games unfold here this weekend, but many of the brightest international stars will miss the party.

The games have not been hit by the political boycotts which marred the last three Olympics, but they have failed to draw the likes of Carl Lewis, Edwin Moses and others, who illuminated the 1984 Olympiad in Los Angeles.

The early timing of the games, the pull of other — probably more lucrative — meetings to the U.S., and the conflicting demands of preparation for the European Indoor Championships in Athens in March have taken a toll.

But fans can still look forward to seeing much compelling athletics as Soviet pole-vaulter Sergei Bubka and East German sprinter Marita Koch.

Bubka and Koch, both gold medalists in the Inaugural World Championships in Helsinki in 1983, were sadly absent from Los Angeles and will be all the more eager to make an impact.

Bubka will renew his rivalry with European indoor champion Thierry Vigneron of France, who snatched the Soviet vaulter's world record in Rome last September only for Bubka to soar still higher at the same meeting.

His older brother Vasily will also be in the field, but Olympic champion Pierre Quinoo has had to pull out because of a knee injury. The 17-strong Soviet squad also features 1980 Olympic sprint and middle distance gold medalist Liudmila Koudatzeva and Nadezhda Olizarenko.

Fans had looked forward to a duel between Koch and Jarmila

Kratochvilova over 200 metres but there have been reports that the clash of world champions, who ran in different events in Helsinki, is off because the Czechoslovak is out fully fit.

Olympic silver medalist Sam Graddy and fellow sprinter Mel Lattany lead the 24-strong U.S. challenge with Chandra Cheesborough, the 400 metres Olympic silver medalist, and high hurdler Stephanie Hightower.

But Lewis, Moses and other U.S. Olympic champions, such as sprinters Evelyn Ashford and Valerie Brisco-Hooks and hurdlers Roger Kingdom and Benita Fitzgerald are staying at home.

Though around 350 athletes from 74 nations will be competing, East Germany have cut back even more than the other athletics super-powers, announcing a squad of just seven. But the quality of their line-up is unmatched.

Koch's team-mates include former Olympic shot-put champion Udo Beyer and world championship runner-up Ulf Timmermann, and world championship sprint relay gold medalist Silke Gladisch.

West Germany also parade a reduced squad of seven, with Olympic shot-put champion Claudia Losch and high-jumpers Carlo Thraenhardt and Gerd Nagel the most familiar names.

But Dietmar Moegenburg, winner of the Olympic high jump in Los Angeles, has pulled out of the West German squad.

Kenya, pride of Africa, are sending Olympic 3,000 metres steeplechase gold medalist Julius Kori and middle-distance man Edwin Koech, Billy Konchellah,

Joseph Chesire and Sammy Koskel.

China's squad of nine features Zou Zhenxian, fourth in the triple jump in Los Angeles, and long jumper Liu Yuhuang, who was fifth, plus women's 5-km walk world record-holder Hong Yan.

Canada look to sprinters Ben Johnson, the Olympic 100 metres bronze medalist, Tony Sharpe and Angela Taylor, while Olympic 400 metres finalist Darren Clarke and shot-put bronze medalist Gael Martin figure high in the Australian line-up.

Mexico's Ernesto Canto and Italy's Maurizio Damilano, present and past Olympic 20-km walk champions, will compete in the men's walk event over five kilometres.

The International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) offered to meet travel and accommodation costs of 347 athletes and 92 officials from 71 countries, but several squads — notably East and West Germany — have not taken up their full allowance.

"I'm a little disappointed. But you can't blame the athletes," press chief Roger Debaye told Reuters. "If the federation had decided to hold the games a month later, it would have changed the picture completely."

"But I would rather great athletes like Lewis and Moegenburg didn't come if they don't feel in top form. If Carl Lewis were beaten like that, it would be bad."

IAAF President Primo Nebiolo admitted last month that the dates were not ideal, but said the federation had not wanted to prejudice the European Championships.

USOC chief says transfusions illegal

NEW YORK (R) — The chief medical officer of the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) said Tuesday he believed blood transfusions used to enhance athletic endurance were not only unethical but illegal under the USOC's standpoint.

Dr. Irving Dardik, chairman of the USOC Sports Medicine Council, said the determination of his investigation into so-called blood doping by between six and nine members of the medal-winning U.S. cycling team "will be that it is illegal."

Dardik told Reuters that the riders, under the administration of a non-USOC physician, underwent a dangerous procedure in which donor blood was used in a last-minute attempt to improve their Olympic performance.

"It wasn't a new technique, but it was hazardous. Our investigation has shown that they used other people's blood in order to facilitate the process. In other words, there wasn't enough time to do the 'normal' process."

Using "other people's blood" presents the possibility of problems ranging from hepatitis to God knows what — AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), Dardik said.

The process normally used by athletes is to have some of their own blood removed and treated to increase the number of red blood cells, which carry oxygen and hence boost stamina, and then have that blood returned to their bodies.

The technique used in a hotel room near the Olympic Velodrome outside Los Angeles was "done with relative haste."

McEnroe named World Champion for 3rd time

LONDON (R) — John McEnroe was named World Champion for the third time, an achievement only equaled by Bjorn Borg, by the International Tennis Federation (ITF) Wednesday.

The ITF said their panel of five former all-time great champions was unanimous in choosing McEnroe, the Wimbledon, U.S. Open and Grand Prix Masters Champion.

Don Budge, the first man to complete the Grand Slam, said: "John McEnroe is the only complete player in the men's game. He's such an exciting player to

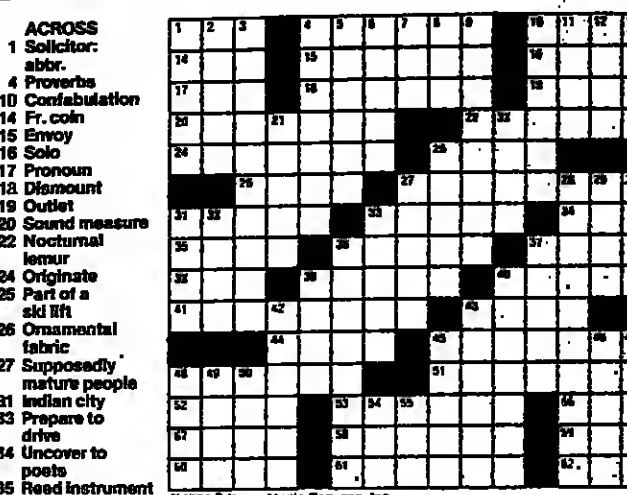
watch and if he keeps going he will wind up as one of the all-time greats."

"I don't think he is yet that because he hasn't won the French Open," he added. "But he does have a touch of genius similar to Henri Cochet, as if the racket were a magic wand."

Another judge, Britain's Fred Perry who won Wimbledon three times in succession from 1934-36, said: "he's by far the best player on the circuit."

Tooy Trabert, Lew Head and Frank Sedgman completed the judging panel.

THE Daily Crossword By Wilson McBeath



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS: 1. Solicitor; 4. Proverbs; 10. Confabulation; 14. Fr. coin; 15. Envoy; 16. Sole; 17. Pronoun; 18. Dismount; 19. Outlet; 20. Sound measure; 22. Nocturnal; 24. Originate; 25. Part of a ski lift; 26. Ornamental fabric; 27. Supposedly mature people; 31. Indian city; 33. Prepare to drive; 34. Uncover to poets; 35. Reed instrument; 36. Dogma; 37. Snicker's partner.

DOWN: 2. Yugoslav city; 3. Guiled; 40. Moderated; 41. Social; 43. Foreman's group; 44. Profligate; 45. Low lands next to a river; 46. Certain art piece; 47. Cousin of CIA; 52. Too bad!; 53. Burns; 56. Before; 57. Fast time; 58. Prevaricator; 59. Intel; 60. Pond; 61. Diner; 62. Sweet potato; 42. Country rock group; 43. Expanse; 46. Little; 47. Wordplay; 48. Number and; 49. Start; 50. Pub; 51. Tract; 52. Marked; 53. A singing Smith; 54. Pointless; 55. Squawk; 56. Cornered; 57. Instill; 58. Capital of 40; 59. Two-edged sword; 60. I — be; 61. Famous dha; 62. Newspaper item; 32. Charo's; 33. Charo's; 34. Swindler; 35. Armor for a horse; 36. — Theresa; 42. Vapor; 43. Shopping center; 44. Olive genus; 45. Depository of seeds; 46. Actress; 47. Le Gallienne; 48. Grain.

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Cinema **AL-HUSSEIN** Tel: 22117 **MIND YOUR MIND** (Arabic) (Colour) Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema **RAINBOW** Tel: 25155 **DRESSED TO KILL** (In Colour) 3:30 6:00 8:30 10:30 p.m.

Cinema **OPERA** **FEAR OVER THE CITY** (In colour) Abdali, behind ALIA offices

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LONDON STOCK MARKET

He noted that Pegi Malaysia, Dunlop's biggest share holder with 26 per cent, has already undertaken to vote for the reconstruction proposals.

U.S. borrowers lead international markets

After Japan, which raised \$17.4 billion, the next largest borrowers in 1984 were Sweden with \$13.1 billion and France, which raised \$12.4 billion.

Western states agree debt deal with Poland

The West broke off the debt talks at that time even though six of the creditor countries — Austria, Brazil, Finland, Japan, Sweden and Switzerland — are not NATO members.

LONDON (R) — Pressure on the pound sterling eased Wednesday and the dollar showed little movement as the currency markets kept a cautious eye on a top-level meeting of leading Western finance ministers in Washington.

but traders warned that sterling's latest sanctuary was still vulnerable to a fresh rise in the dollar or further downward pressure on the U.S. dollar down.

Planned weeks ago, the meeting was originally set up as one of a series to assess the international economic outlook. But recent turmoil on the currency markets and even months of wrangling among congressmen before a final budget is approved.

turnout on the currency markets whether the administration will

The sources said the treasury is now willing to interpret the definition of "disorderly markets" broadly, the debt problems of individual nations have been dealt with separately while calls for a

Accordingly, the officials would discuss the U.S. budget and the robust American economy as well as sluggish European economic

Ministers and central bankers will also review the international

British industry weighs plans

sterling's slide — sharply higher interest rates which have increased the cost of new borrowing from banks and repayments on existing loans — shortly, and more expensive mortgages spell bad news for the building industry. The higher cost of borrowing will also mean less con-

one day, though they have since bounced back.

"Britain's economic recovery is good, but not good enough to wit-

some cases offset by the recent weakness in raw material prices.

Nonetheless manufacturers' input costs increased 2.9 per cen-

Many politicians have said the pound has remained over-valued against the currencies of other

Unofficial strikes that disrupted production and hurt the confidence of overseas customers

Oil has disguised a steady slide into deficit on merchandise trade

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed higher as sterling steadied but the market remains nervous as the short term sterling outlook is still uncertain. At 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was up 18.5 to 1251.7.

Some institutional demand was noted but share rises were accentuated owing to stock shortages which reflect covering of recent oversold positions.

Government bonds were irregular with gains of around $\frac{1}{4}$ in short dates but longer maturities were $\frac{1}{16}$ point easier on balance. Gold shares and North Americans were mixed.

ICI at 762 and BTR at 611 both firmed 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ p while Glaxo jumped 50p to 1165 after a brokers' profit forecast was upgraded. dealers said.

British Aerospace, suspended at 368 Tuesday, ended at 358 after returning at 355 Wednesday morning. The government said Tuesday it will sell its 48 per cent stake in the company later this year with company itself making a share issue at the time.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R1) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.1205/15	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3249/52	Canadian dollars
	3.1820/30	West German marks
	3.5955/70	Dutch guilders
	2.6785/95	Swiss francs
	63.68/72	Belgian francs
	9.7475/7525	French francs
	1952.0/1953.0	Italian lire
	254.70/80	Japanese yen
	9.1175/1275	Swedish crowns
	9.2125/2225	Norwegian crowns
	11.3875/3975	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	302.75/303.25	U.S. dollars

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Cerroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, JAN. 17, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A startling event can make you want to act quickly so you can get out from under some untenable position, but you would merely get into some other confrontational crisis.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You desire to get off to new interests but don't be forceful otherwise you spoil your chances with one who can assist you.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You had better face up to some obligation instead of trying to worm yourself out of it. Be more harmonious with your mate.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You may want to change partners or add another hastily, but it would be better to sleep on it on first and be sure of what is best.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Don't get frustrated with your job but find better ways of handling it efficiently. Hit on a more logical perspective.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Some extravagance you may indulge in today could bring remorse soon or you get severely criticized, so be more economical instead.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Don't make those changes at home until you get the OK from all who dwell there.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You may get a letter that can help you to advance very quickly to your career. Get rid of that flaw in the path of your progress.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Some financial investment you may make could work to your detriment, so study it well. Don't lose your temper.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) If you try to get out of some unpleasant matter, be careful not to act hastily. Enjoy yourself socially in the evening.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You think you can quickly rid yourself of some constant worry, but give it more thought and then handle it wisely.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Don't follow the advice of a person whose ideas are different from your own. Be more willing to accept help, though.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Take it slow and easy at your regular work and do it accurately, without trying to make revisions.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... be or she will have many talents but will have to gradually come out with them since they are advanced and the public would not accept them readily, and therefore have to be proven with the assistance of other pioneers. Teach to be patient and later a big name can be made.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, JAN. 13, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You have a big opportunity now to consider your most ambitious projects. Go to those whom you want to cooperate with or in making them a workable reality and get their assistance.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Many new and fascinating interests can be gotten into today so study them and know which can help you the most.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You have an opportunity to use good judgment in business affairs, especially with one who appreciates your talents.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A good day to contact as many associates and pals as possible and make wise plans for the future.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Study your job tasks and do them in such a way that higher-ups will be pleased.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Plan your entertainments for the days ahead wisely so that you can extract the greatest pleasure from them.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Home conditions may need changes and improvements that may require expenditure of some money.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Contact those persons who can help to make routines more productive and easy at the same time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Huddle with financial experts so that you can add much to your bank account and get good results.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be sure to study your wishes and know how best to gain them at this time, and also become more prosperous.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) While you like to get everything well organized, this is a day to consider the over-all picture of your existence and make revisions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Find out what friends can be most helpful to you in improving your social affairs, and get into the right circles.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Handle your business affairs in such a way that bigwigs will be more than pleased, and you will advance quickly in your career.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be greatly interested in international affairs and also be a true patriot, so be sure to plan for a very fine education now and to add foreign languages to the curriculum since much travel is possible during the lifetime. Teach to be more tactful with others and to be very sure of facts and figures.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

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1984 HARRIS

PLASTER

"Good try. You patched the crack in the ceiling, but created four new ones!"

JUMBLE.

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LEKAN

KECAD

RETINE

SURDIA

WHAT A VERY REPETITIVE TYPE OF DANCE MIGHT BE CALLED.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: A "OOOOOOO - OOOOOO"

(Answers tomorrow)

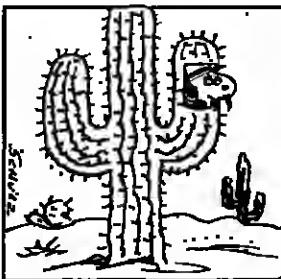
Yesterday's Jumbles: LOVER ANNOY SOOTHE REDUCE
Answer: How the pop singer turned politician ran—ON HIS RECORD

Peanuts

AH, ANOTHER LETTER FROM MY BROTHER SPIKE.

"DEAR SNOOPY: I WISH YOU COULD SEE MY NEW HOME...THE VIEW FROM THE UPSTAIRS WINDOW IS SPECTACULAR!"

UPSTAIRS WINDOW?



Mutt 'n' Jeff

TV REPAIR MAN!

OH... COME IN!

I CAN'T REPAIR THIS OUT-IT'S A TOUGH ONE!

I KNOW... WHAT THE TROUBLE IS!

OH, YOU DO, DO YOU? WELL, TELL ME WHAT'S WRONG?

IT'S FULL OF DEAD GANGSTERS!

Andy Capp

I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU WERE ONLY GOING TO JACKIE'S FOR A DRINK...

THAT'S RIGHT, I DID.

YOU'RE LYING! I CALLED IN TO BUY YOU A PINT ON MY WAY HOME FROM BEING AN! THEY HADN'T SEEN YOU ALL EVENING!WELL, WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO SAY FOR YOURSELF?!

YOU CAN BUY ME ONE TOMORROW NIGHT INSTEAD, PET. OKAY?

